

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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[SIXPENCE.]

THE POST-OFFICE.

PARLIAMENT has no sooner disposed of the question of Post-Office management than it is taken up by the authorities of the Establishment itself. Without impugning the little less than awful power of the Legislature, we confess we have more hopes of amendment, where amendment is wanted, from efforts made from within the walls of St. Martin than without.

Public opinion compels great changes, like the postal revolution of Rowland Hill, but points of detail and practical working can be best arranged and perfected by the body itself. And, notwithstanding all the censure that has been cast on the establishment, we incline to

think, that, for the sake of making out a case, its defects have been more strongly dwelt on than its merits. The Englishman's privilege of grumbling at everything, has never been more plentifully indulged than with respect to the Post-Office; yet, considering what it does, the enormous amount of business it transacts daily and nightly,

and at what a trifling cost to the public, we believe it has no equal in any other country of the world, and may be justly considered one of the wonders of our own. While we are eternally abusing it, foreigners are urging their Governments to adopt the principle on which it now proceeds: we underrate it because the experience of its benefit is so constant and unceasing, that we lose our perception of it, and become alive only to the interruptions and irregularities that are the exception, rather than the rule. Foreigners, on the other hand, see only the great principle of cheapness of communication successfully carried out, and, envious of this, suppose there are no faults of management connected with it; hence they praise and extol what we assail with censure, deepening occasionally into positive abuse. There are other things besides the Post-Office in the same predicament, undervalued most by those who are most familiar with them. Nearly half the Legislature, and about half the public press of England, are firmly persuaded that Sir Robert Peel is a madman, or a traitor, or both; that he is anything but a great statesman. Take the opinion of foreign journals—especially the organs of the German commercial community, tied and bound in every direction by tolls and frontiers, and custom-houses without end—and the enfranchisement of commerce is lauded as a work little less than sacred, and the statesman who effects it is the greatest of all rulers present and past; while the invocations to their own Governments to “do likewise”

are as loud and earnest as the censorship will permit. The inference to be drawn in both cases, is, that we are inclined to find too much fault with too little reason, both with men and establishments; that neither are perfect is readily granted, but both may be abused beyond their actual demerits.

The Post-Office, as the great channel of the correspondence of the nation, must keep pace with the development of its internal means of communication. There is a tendency in all great public establishments to go on in the beaten path of routine, and an impulse from without is often necessary to move them out of it. It is scarcely credible that the accounts of the Exchequer were, down to a comparatively recent date, kept in the cumbrous Roman numerals, though all the traders and merchants of the kingdom had abandoned them for the Arabic figures, for centuries. The “tallies,” too, were in use in the same department long after the system became an absurdity and laughing-stock to all men; and, as if even an absurdity could not be got rid of without doing as much mischief as possible, it is said that it was the burning of an accumulation of these respected relics of ignorance in the stoves of the House of Lords that caused the destruction of both Houses of Parliament. Old forms and fashions and practices are the most inveterate of nuisances, and, somehow, are singularly tenacious of life. There is no respect for antiquity in the matter, as may well be supposed; but things get mixed up



NEW SORTING-ROOM, AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

with persons, old practices necessitate old offices, probably held by old persons, and, though the process is very absurd, the salary that pays for the obstruction of something better is not; and hence comes the tenacity with which these old things are clung to. Much has been done to rid the public service of some of these official antiquities; and the country decidedly gains by paying the holders of these relics of the dignity of the middle ages quite as much as their salaries, to do nothing at all for the term of their natural lives, instead of allowing them to sit on their stools and block up the path of business, with the staid and respectable formality of our forefathers. But in most of our public offices there are a good many remains of this sort of thing left, and some backwardness in adapting itself to the new wants and new facilities of the age, may be alleged against the Post-Office; still as it is the department with which the public comes most immediately in contact, the deficiencies have been most felt, and most loudly complained of. But we believe it is improving, and that the defects alleged against it spring more from the details of its internal management than want of will or means to make it all that can be desired.

An inquiry has been going on in the establishment itself, which is, doubtless, the result of the recent discussion in the House of Commons. It was there stated that the "subordinate" officials were in a decided state of "insubordination," and that discontent pervaded the whole mass of Letter Sorters and Carriers. The statement seems confirmed by so much of the inquiry as has yet been made public. Secret meetings have been held, for the discussion of grievances, principally inefficient and uncertain salaries, and the compulsory task of collecting information for the "Post-Office Directory," "and a vast increase of work, not met by an adequate ratio of pay;" the effect of all this is thus described in the Report:—"Anonymous placards, of a violent character, were stuck up in the Newspaper-Office, and so unwilling were the men to work upon several occasions, that it was with the greatest difficulty the business was got through; and, as the whole of the delivering force belonging to the General Post-Office is employed in various offices, both morning and evening, in preparing the letters for delivery, and the newspapers for despatch, the unwilling men managed seriously to retard the duty."

This is a state of things that cannot be allowed to continue; and, as the remedy is easy, it should be immediately applied. The Post-Office should not be regarded as a source of revenue; if it supports itself so much the better; but, if there is a surplus, it should be devoted to increasing its efficiency in every way, the first step being to put an end to this degrading squabble about wages between a public department and its servants. They should be well paid for their work, for it requires many good qualities, strength, some intelligence, and honesty. To leave them dependant on the public by the fees for early delivery is an abuse; the necessity all men of business are under of receiving their letters at the earliest moment converts the seeming gratuity into an actual extortion. What the Office is bound to do for all, it should do for all alike. For keeping private boxes for large establishments, which send for their letters, as it is an extra accommodation, extra payment may fairly be asked. But delivery of letters is a duty on the part of the Office, and should be discharged impartially and without exceptions.

As for the publishing the "Post-Office Directory," some clearer understanding might be come to. Some such stock of information the Post-Office must have at command for its own purposes, that is evident. The publication of it is extremely useful to the public; and, we believe, except by the Post-Office it could not be published at all—certainly not so cheaply, or in so complete a form. We think it a good use to make of "official information;" but if the men feel the collecting that information a grievance, because such a use is made of it, let them be paid something extra for their work as an acknowledgment; though if no such work were published we do not think they could demand it. That they are generally underpaid, considering the nature of their work, we believe, and this admits of a remedy that we are sure the public would not grudge.

The irregularities and imperfections in the management of the Post-Office, except those that can be traced to the bad spirit above described, are practical matters, that, from the nature of things, cannot entirely be avoided. The amount of business, that is always great, at times becomes overwhelming. Steam has multiplied newspapers in as great a ratio as it has increased the means of conveying them. Now that all the world can write, and nobody bestows a thought upon postage, letters pass by millions; and where such immense numbers have to be dealt with, each single packet requiring manipulation and arrangement, it is often a physical impossibility to insure at once accuracy and quickness. Considering what has to be done, it is wonderful that it is done so well. Increased means of despatching the business have been recently provided within the establishment; but while this is being done, there is another point which is strangely neglected by the public, and which does not come within the province of the Post-Office at all, though it must have great influence upon it. We mean the naming and numbering of squares, streets, and other localities. In both these respects there is neither plan nor method. Scores of streets in different and widely-separated parts of this vast City bear the same name, and the numbering of houses is sometimes past all comprehension. The slightest imperfection in the address of a letter sends it on a voyage of discovery to all the squares and terraces of the same name, till it finds the right one. This must add much to the labour of the establishment, while the defect is out of its power to remove.

NEW SORTING ROOM, AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE.

This vast apartment has just been added to the Inland Department of the General Post-Office, in St. Martin's-le-Grand, under the superintendence of Sir Robert Smirke, R.A., the architect of this truly noble official edifice. The roof supports are of cast-iron, and along its centre is a glazed sky-light; but, in our illustration, the artist has shown the office as it appears during the evening duty, when it is lit throughout by gas, with strong reflectors.

A speedy communication with the lower rooms is effected by two machines, one at each end of the adjoining room (seen on the right of our engraving). Each machine consists of a row of shelves, about eight or nine feet apart. During the hours of business it is kept, by steam power, constantly descending and ascending, so that the fatigue and delay of going up or down stairs with bags of papers or letters is, by this arrangement, dispensed with, the person wishing to descend to the lower room merely having to step on one of the shelves with his papers, &c., when he is steadily lowered to the apartment beneath, and vice versa.

As the business of the Inland Office has already been minutely described in our Journal (Nos. 112 and 113) we need not repeat them; but, add a few of the leading details, to show the vast amount of the business of this gigantic establishment.

Number of officers and men employed in the Inland and Foreign Departments:—

Clerks	173
Messengers	90
Sub-Sorters	169
Letter-Carriers	281
The number of letters and newspapers sent weekly through the Office:—	
Letters	2,095,105
Newspapers	829,047

The number of bags received and sent DAILY is about 3000.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

PARISIANA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Wednesday.

Few persons appear to have thought of the immense advantages—commercial, and, above all, political—of that volatility of habits, and cultivation of pleasure, justly attributed to the Parisians. This peculiar idiosyncrasy, which belonged to the Athenians, amongst the ancients, renders Paris the capital of pleasure of the whole universe. At this moment, when its native society is flagging, Paris is filled with strangers from every part of the globe, at the moment expending lavishly their money, and who will carry home to their several countries the taste for French manufactures. As regards politics, all the political characters of the most distant states repair to Paris, for change of scene and diversion, as Ibrahim Pacha does at this moment. The inconsistency of our Government here is strangely displayed in his case. The Ministers of France unquestionably bear towards England a real *entente cordiale*; still, it is openly said on all sides, by Ministerial men, that the unprecedented cajolery and honours of which the truculent Egyptian is the object, are directed towards making him a partisan of France against the views of England—a work of silly supererogation, since we have no greater concernment in Egypt than any other Powers; whilst England's interest is paramount, and as possessing immense empire to which it is the high road, it is legitimate; and the opening of a free and rapid access to the East, by the Isthmus of Suez, must lead to the civilization of mankind, and to the increase of the general commerce of Europe. However, the enchantments employed appear to do their spiriting most triumphantly on Ibrahim. At the dinner just taken place at the Hotel de Ville, placed by the side of the King's son, the young Duke de Montpensier, once his guest in Egypt, I saw him make such demonstrations of affection to his neighbour as can only occur to a Mussulman who does not consider champagne one of the drinks forbidden by the Prophet. At the races at the Champ de Mars, on Sunday, he said, through his interpreter, to a friend of mine, "that no nation could excel in such sports, except one, in which the taste and talent for it is innate and ancient. The good Ibrahim imagines the French the first sportsmen in Europe—and well may he imagine it, for now the lowest artisans have their whole souls wrapped up in these amusements, and bet like *Grands Seigneurs*. On Sunday, although the rain pelted most unmercifully up to four o'clock, P.M., the crowd kept pouring in as fast as they could disengage themselves from their vocations. In every *cave* you overhear the quidnuncs making up their books for the Chantilly races. The races—the annual exhibition at the Louvre, so creditable to the artists, from the severe studies it proves, and creating so much more sensation in our artistic nation, in which the external senses, from their outdoor habits, are always kept in a state of excitement: these resources keep up, in the absence of great balls and *fêtes*, a spirit of lively emotion in Paris. Nor are we totally deprived of parties. I was present at one which took place last Thursday, at Count de Salvandy's, which was worthy of a *Grand Seigneur* of the ancient régime. M. de Salvandy, who is a novel writer as well as a political man, has succeeded that great *littérateur*, poor decorated M. Villemain, as Minister of Public Instruction. Being a greater lover of display and of aristocratic habits, the official residence of the Minister has lost all its pristine scholastic soberness of look; and the last party, the marriage of Mlle. de Salvandy with the Vicomte d'Aux, infused naturally a more splendid and unreserved spirit of hospitality into the conduct of the noble host.

There needs no better proof of the prosperity of Paris, and of the numbers of affluent visitors who flock to it throughout the year, than the building going on in every direction. This ardour of construction is much less bestowed in increasing the circumference of the metropolis than by invading the skies by compact masses of buildings on ancient central sites of fashion. In the new hotels the court-yards are suppressed, for the purpose of gaining room: they exclude the air of heaven to the inmates below, whilst those who inhabit the sixth and seventh stories of these new towers of Babel have light and purer atmosphere for compensation of their hard labours of ascent, and they may besides rest satisfied that all who come to see them, unless they be creditors, are real friends. Amongst the building speculators will now figure the Marquis of Hertford. During his absence in London, some speculators have bought the house in which was situated his favourite *entresol*. Rather than lose these small, long-inhabited apartments, of his, he gave the speculators 200,000 francs for their bargain, and now he is going to build shops in the regions below, which being placed on the Boulevards des Italiens, will let at very high prices. This looks as if your new Knight of the Garter did not intend to renounce Paris, which has been for twenty years his *patrie*, and spend his enormous revenues either in England or in Ireland. In Paris, we possess exclusively several of your greatest and richest noblemen as denizens—the amiable Earl of Pembroke, for example, who, after many changes of residence, appears to have taken up his definitive abode in the Rue Fauxbourg du Roule. Foremost amongst the buildings now so rapidly springing up figures the new Theatre Montpensier, of which the patent was obtained by A. Damas, the dramatic author, through the influence of the Duke de Montpensier; hence its name. It presents this point of interest; that Damas, a leader of the romanticists and of the unbridled school of dramatists, is raising a new theatre at the very moment the classic theatre of Comelle, Molière, and Racine, is declining. In vain the Theatre Français has obtained judgment of one hundred thousand francs damages against its best comic actress, Plessy, eloped to Russia; in vain it tries every new actor or actress, in high comedy or tragedy, of any promise: from day to day it miserably declines. The "Grand Monarque," that absolute Sovereign, Louis XIV, so devotedly did he love Molière that he established the government of this theatre on Republican principles—the troupe governed itself—each member voting in Council of Management. The *Sociétaires*, however, are now grown so desperate that they contemplate submitting themselves, in the nineteenth century of constitutional liberty, to a director and a master. Another topic is what has occurred with respect to the prize of 10,000 francs, left by the will of M. Gobert, once an attaché of Talleyrand's embassy in London, to be granted to the writer of the best work of literary research. It was awarded to M. Buchon, the author of admirable Researches into the Chivalric Conquests of the French in the Greek Islands. But, at the moment of receiving this reward, M. Buchon died, and the Académiciens are now debating whether his representatives are to have the money. The literary wags of Paris are much amused at this dilemma of "the forty"—saying that, on the same principle, they will have to reward Thucydides or Cicero; whilst others feel but too acutely that the reward of talent and genius comes but too often after death—like an epitaph on a tombstone, which avails not to him who, after a life of struggle, now has sunk to rise no more.

FRANCE.

It is stated by the best informed Parisian journals, that her Majesty Queen Victoria will not visit Paris this summer, as was intended. The papers devote the greater portion of their space to the debates in the Chamber of Peers on commercial reforms; and in the Deputies, on the extraordinary credits required for the service of the year.

The King has received letters of congratulation on his recent providential escape, from the Pope, the Kings of the Two Sicilies, of Bavaria, and Sweden, and Norway; from the Queen of Spain, the Grand Dukes of Mecklenburgh Strelitz and Oldenburgh, and the Archduke of Tuscany.

The Chamber of Peers has adopted the eight articles of the project of law, relative to the Belgian treaty, without any discussion.

The *Constitutionnel* announces that Ibrahim Pacha is to visit London in about a fortnight—a visit which our contemporary looks upon with no small jealousy.

Ibrahim Pacha, his two brothers, and son, dined at the Hotel de Ville of Paris on Saturday. Count de Rambuteau, the Prefect, had invited on the occasion the Duke de Montpensier, the superior officers of the National Guard of Paris, and the General and Colonels of the regiments of the garrison. After the health of the King, the Duke de Montpensier proposed those of Mehmet Ali, the regenerator of Egypt, and of his son Ibrahim Pacha, their illustrious guest. The Egyptian Prince, having returned thanks, proposed the following toast:—"To the King and to the city of Paris, the capital of civilisation and the arts, the great monuments and liberal institutions of which do honour to the genius of man, and are the object of universal admiration; to his Royal Highness the Duke de Montpensier, who honoured Egypt by his visit, and whose passage left indelible recollections among those who had the honour to approach him."

The King and the Royal Family have removed from the Palace of the Tuilleries to the Chateau de Neuilly, their spring residence.

The Chamber of Deputies has granted a sum of 24,300,000 francs for the construction of the Central Railroad comprised between Bec d'Allier and Clermont, and finally adopted the entire bill by a majority of 241 to 2.

The *Esprit Public* has the following on Lecomte:—"Nothing has as yet transpired of the interrogatories undergone by Lecomte. It is merely known that he has become more talkative and less gloomy. At first he was savage, and refused to reply to the questions put to him, or replied shortly and abruptly. They began to despair of bending this stubborn nature, when the Duke Decazes offered his services, promising to succeed. This was willingly acceded to, and he began operations at once. This noble personage is said to have resorted to an expedient, which, if it does not give proof of great richness of invention, attests at least great experience. He appreciates the power of sensuality over vulgar minds, and those means have always crowned his efforts with success, when he had not to deal with men whose education had ennobled their minds. Lecomte, during the first days of his imprisonment, ate little and drank nothing; he is now surrounded by all the delicacies of the table. He is served with the best dishes and excellent wines, and twice a day the head cook of the Luxembourg receives the orders of the prisoner, who inspects his bill of fare. Nothing is refused him. It is said that he has a particular esteem for the cellar of the Duke Decazes, which is at least a proof of his good taste, as this cellar is noted in gastronomic circles. After these feasts, Lecomte becomes talkative and unboisom himself. His smallest words are noted down."

The French Chambers are now winding up the business of the session with great rapidity. On Saturday the Chamber of Deputies passed the Centre Railway Bill, or, in other words, the railway from Vierzon to Chateauroux. The discussion on the question whether the road should pass through Moulins or through Nevers was a long one, and was ultimately determined in favour of the latter town. This is the last of the series of railway bills to be passed during the present session, with the exception of the Bordeaux and Bayonne Railway Bill, which is still to be discussed. The bills which have been passed are the Bordeaux and Cette, the Western, the Caen, the Dijon and Mulhausen, the St. Dizier and Gray, and the Centre Railway Bills.

THE UNITED STATES.

New York papers to the 23rd ult. arrived early in the week. They brought important intelligence. The Senate and the House of Representatives have been at issue on the Oregon question. The House of Representatives

amended the Oregon resolutions of the Senate by altering the terms so as to exclude the expression for an "amicable" arrangement of differences, and substituting terms merely desiring an early settlement. The Senate refused to accept the alteration of the other house, and so the two branches of the Legislature were obliged to resort to a Committee of Conference to settle it.

Since the above was received, the *Caledonia* has arrived, with advices to the 30th ult., which announce the favourable termination of the difference. The Committee of Conference of three members from each body, after some deliberation, unanimously agreed to resolutions almost identical with those passed by the Senate, the difference being in the preamble merely, the actual resolutions being the same. They reported accordingly to the Senate, and that body subsequently approved and confirmed the same by a vote of 42 to 10. The House of Representatives at the same time according their agreement to the same by a vote of 142 to 46.

The press appears to be well satisfied with this result, as an essential step towards an amicable settlement of the differences with Great Britain. It was rumoured that instructions would be sent to Mr. McLane by the *Caledonia* to give the notice required by the existing treaty to Great Britain, and at the same time would offer or invite a proposition for a renewal of the negotiation.

No movement has taken place in Mexico; the army remains at Rio Grande, and the squadron at Vera Cruz, but no hostilities had taken place.

The aspect of commercial affairs had improved, but money was tight. The cotton market was firm. The rate of exchange on London, 109½ to 110.

The Oregon Protection Bill has passed the House. On the 19th, the House was engaged during its entire sitting in the consideration of this bill, providing for the protection of American citizens in Oregon. On the 18th, the bill passed, by ayes, 103; noes, 46.

The following is in substance the bill, as reported in the House of Representatives:—

A BILL TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF AMERICAN SETTLERS IN THE TERRITORY OF OREGON.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,—That the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the territory of Iowa, and the laws of the said territory, so far as the same may be applicable, are hereby extended over all that portion of the territory of the United States which lies west of the Rocky Mountains; and also over all that portion of the intermediate country west of the Missouri River, between the fortieth and forty-third parallels of north latitude; provided, that this act shall not be construed nor executed in such a manner as to deprive Great Britain, or any of her subjects, of any of the rights and privileges secured by the third article of the treaty signed at London on the last of October, 1818, continued in force by the treaty of August, 1847.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, that all the country described in the first section of this act shall constitute one judicial district, and a district court shall be held therein by the judge to be appointed under this act, at such times and places as he shall designate, and said court shall possess all the powers and authority vested in the present district courts of the said territory of Iowa. An additional justice of the supreme court of the territory of Iowa shall be appointed, who shall hold his office by the same tenure, receive the compensation, and possess the same powers and authority as are conferred by law upon the other justices of said court, and who shall hold the district courts in said district as aforesaid.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, that the President be and he is hereby authorised to appoint the requisite number of justices of peace and such ministerial officers as shall be necessary for the due execution of the laws; provided, that any subject of Great Britain who shall be arrested under the provisions of this act, for crime alleged to have been committed within the territory of the United States west of the Rocky Mountains, while the same remains free and open to the vessels, citizens, and subjects of the United States and of Great Britain (pursuant to stipulations between the two powers), shall be delivered up for trial, on proof of his being such British subject, to the nearest and most convenient authorities having cognisance of such offence by the laws of Great Britain.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, that provision shall hereafter be made by law to secure and grant to every white person, male or female, over the age of eighteen years, 320 acres of land; and to every married person, male or female, under the age of eighteen, 160 acres of land, who shall have resided in the said territory, as described in the first section of this act, for five consecutive years, to commence within three years from passage of this act.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, that there shall be appointed, in the manner provided by law for similar officers, a superintendent of Indian affairs, and such Indian agents and sub-agents as shall be necessary to the public interests, to whom may be entrusted, under the direction of the President, and in accordance with the existing laws, so far as they may be consistent with the purpose of this act, the regulation of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and the execution of the laws herein extended over the country described in the first section of this act.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, that the President be, and he is hereby authorised, to construct blockhouses, stockades, or military posts, as shall be necessary to protect emigrants and travellers on the route to and from the territory of Oregon, against Indian depredations and aggressions, and to furnish such ammunition and supplies as shall be necessary to their defence.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, that a mail route be established to the mouth of the Columbia river.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, that the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be appropriated to carry the provisions of this act into effect.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

EAST INDIA MEETING.—A meeting of the Proprietors of East India Stock was held on Wednesday, at the India House, to consider the resolution of the Court of Directors, of the 29th of April last, granting an annuity of £5000 to Viscount Hardinge, and an annuity of £2000 to Lord Gough. These resolutions were confirmed by a large majority. Some additions were proposed by Mr. G. Thompson, stating that a scarcity, bordering on absolute famine, prevailed in Western India, and that the pensions should be paid out of the capital stock of the East India Company, and should not be made a further charge upon the already overburdened natives of India. These additions, however, were rejected.

PRINCE ALBERT'S STATUE FOR THE ROYAL EXCHANGE.—The marble statue of his Royal Highness Prince Albert, subscribed for by the merchants of the City of London, and intended to adorn the vestibule of Lloyd's, at the Royal Exchange, is completed, and will be erected in the course of a few days. Its execution was entrusted to Mr. J. G. Lough, who, it will be recollected, was also selected by her Majesty to execute her statue that now graces the merchants' area.

THE WELLINGTON GROUP.—A hoarding is in the course of erection round the Palace-gate entrance at Hyde Park-corner, preparatory to the placing of Mr. Wyatt's splendid equestrian group in honour of the Duke of Wellington upon the arch. The height is 27 feet, and a mounted Life Guardsman might ride under the belly of the hero's mighty charger.

THE LATE ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF THE KING OF THE FRENCH.—On Tuesday, the deputation appointed by the Court of Aldermen and the Court of Common Council, to carry out the Address which these two bodies had moved, congratulating Louis Philippe, the King of the French, upon his providential escape from the hand of the assassin Lecomte, assembled at the Council Chamber, Guildhall, for the purpose of proceeding to the residence of the French Ambassador with the Address. The Members of the Corporation were received in the most courteous manner, and it was understood that the Address would at once be forwarded by a special messenger. According to etiquette, the contents of the Address will not be made public until after it has been presented to his Majesty.

THE TOWER.—On Monday afternoon, the Tower of London was formally taken possession of by the Metropolitan Police, for the first time since the establishment of the force. The old Ordnance watchmen, with their long blue coats and large swords suspended to a belt, and their watch-boxes, have been superseded, and a sergeant and thirteen constables of the H division, armed only with truncheons, will patrol the interior of the fortress day and night. A station-house behind the "Irish Barracks" has been fitted up for the police doing duty. The sentinels will be posted as usual, and the warders, in their ancient uniforms, will continue to exhibit the Armouries.

PROPOSED CENTRAL RAILWAY STATION IN THE METROPOLIS.—On Monday evening, a respectfully-attended meeting was held in the Common Council Room, Guildhall, in order that Mr. Pearson, the City Solicitor, might exhibit a model of and explain his proposed scheme for constructing a road, with three double lines of railway under it, from Battle-bridge to Farringdon-street. The Lord Mayor took the chair at seven o'clock. Mr. Pearson's address occupied two hours and a half. The project, it was explained, is not to be constructed either by viaducts or the usual tunnels, both of which Mr. Pearson condemned, but by having the street bodily lifted over it, so that it will enjoy the advantages of light and ventilation. Whether the plan is to be atmospheric or locomotive, remains to be settled. Mr. Pearson urged the necessity of relieving the streets from their present closeness of business; and the improvements that would be effected, by having traffic brought into the heart of the town, and near its markets. He was loudly applauded at the conclusion of his remarks.

THE STEAMERS ON THE THAMES.—The Thames has within the last few days, since the weather has settled down fair, become the leading highway of personal communication between the City and the West-end. There are no fewer than eleven steamboats, at one penny the trip, engaged in the traffic between London and Westminster bridges alone, making thirty-two trips in the hour, or three hundred and twenty trips per diem, which, taking forty as the average number of passengers each journey, will make a total daily of 15,000, whilst the return number may be estimated at the same amount. The fares are one penny, making in round numbers £125 as the daily receipts; and the time occupied between the above points varies from a quarter to half an hour, being a much shorter time than it can be effected by omnibuses.

FIRES IN LONDON.—The number of fires that have taken place in the metropolis and its suburbs, since the commencement of the year, according to the records kept by the brigade authorities, amounts to more than three hundred. The loss of life is, happily, not so great as formerly, which is attributable to the judicious course pursued by the Superintendent of the Force, in providing every constable of the Metropolitan Police with printed instructions for his guidance on discovering fire. The most important injunction is, that of keeping all doors and windows closed until the arrival of the brigade-men and engines.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS IN THE METROPOLIS.—The number of deaths registered in the metropolitan districts during the week ending last Saturday was 841, being 23 above the average of the corresponding weeks of the six preceding years, but 51 below the average of the last five springs. The number of births registered during the past week exceeded that of the deaths by 573, being 1414.

THE LATE ASSASSINATION IN DRURY-LANE.—Thomas Blewitt, the poor fellow who has been lying at King's College Hospital, in so precarious a condition, since Saturday, the 25th ult., when he was shot by the boy Graham, in Drury-lane, expired at an early hour on Monday morning. About a week after his admission to the Hospital the medical officers, observing that the unfortunate man had completely recovered from the severe shock upon the nervous system which the pistol shot occasioned, entertained strong hopes of his ultimate recovery; but some subsequent unfavourable symptoms diminished their confidence in this result. Blewitt himself appeared very sanguine throughout his illness, and, probably, felt the more encouraged by opinions expressed by his medical attendants. Graham, the boy whose unaccountable act has deprived this poor man of his life and his family of their means of support, has preserved the most heartless aspect during his confinement. An inquest was held on the body of poor Blewitt, on Thursday, at the Grange Tavern, Carey-street, Lincoln's Inn. The evidence of the witnesses was a mere recapitulation of that given at the police-office; but a young woman named Cook, who is a material witness, being too ill to attend, the inquest was adjourned till she was sufficiently recovered.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

RELIGIOUS OPINIONS BILL.—The Bishop of Exeter brought on the motion of which he had given notice, respecting the Religious Opinions Relief Bill, and in a speech of considerable length deprecated the dangerous experiment of repealing those portions of the acts of Elizabeth which asserted the supremacy of the Sovereign in opposition to that of the Pope. The Right Rev. Prelate also drew the attention of the House to the power claimed by the Roman See, of absolving subjects from their oaths of allegiance, and otherwise interfering in the internal affairs of foreign countries, and concluded by proposing two questions to the Chancellor and the Judges, as to the probable effect of the proposed bill.—The Lord Chancellor said he should have no objection to submit the questions to the learned Judges, but he did not consider it necessary to do so, because it was clear that by any act or word which would interfere with the supremacy of the Crown, in spiritual as well as temporal matters, would be punishable.—Lord Brougham, Lord Denman, and Lord Campbell, concurred in this opinion.—The Bishop of Exeter again solemnly warned the House of the dangerous breach they were about to make in the constitution of the empire, but ended by withdrawing his motion.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE CORN IMPORTATION BILL.

On the question that this bill be read a third time, The Marquis of GRANBY opposed the bill, contending that protection was absolutely necessary for the prosperity of the agricultural interest. The noble Marquis went over the whole of the arguments generally urged in favour of Protection, and, in conclusion, moved as an amendment that the bill be read a third time that day six months.

Mr. M. GASKELL seconded the amendment.

After some discussion, in which Mr. SHERIDAN, Mr. FLOYER, and Sir J. EASTHOPE took part,

Mr. MILES argued that it was impossible, comparing the taxation of this country with that of others, that we could enter into competition with either Russia or the United States in the production of grain, and he was, therefore, confident that the House of Lords would never pass the bill then under the consideration of the House. The hon. member severely censured the Government for their want of constancy and firmness, and for their tergiversation on this great question.

Sir J. GRAHAM gave his opinion that the House was weary of the protracted debate, and said the country was anxiously looking for the decision, so far as the House of Commons was concerned, of the question. He felt deeply the charge of tergiversation preferred against him by Mr. Miles, and admitted that it was the part of a great statesman to be firm and constant; still he could not have done otherwise than he had under the responsibility which rested on him. The question had upon all hands been narrowed into one as to whether the removal of Protection would or would not be prejudicial to the tillers of the soil; and if it should be apparent that the existing Corn-law would be injurious to the labourers, he, for one, would not advocate it; but he was satisfied in his conscience that the change of the law would be as beneficial to the agricultural as to the commercial portion of the community. He wished, however, that it should be understood, that he had never advocated the repeal of protecting duties because of the distress in Ireland; for, in his opinion, that occurrence had only precipitated that which was in the long run inevitable.

Mr. CAYLEY contended that the abolition of Protection must be equally injurious to the small farmer and the agricultural labourer, as well as pernicious to the general interests of the community.

Mr. NEWDEGATE then moved the adjournment of the debate, which was immediately acceded to.

The House sat till one o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The sitting to-day was a short one, and the business entirely unimportant.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE.

On the order of the day for resuming the adjourned debate on the third reading of the Corn Importation Bill, Mr. HILDYARD retracted the charge which he had made against the Nottingham Free Trade Committee, as having been guilty of bribery during the recent contest for South Nottinghamshire.—The Earl of LINCOLN said a few words upon the subject, and the debate was resumed.

The attendance of members during a considerable portion of the evening was very scanty; and at one time, notice having been taken that forty members were not present, the galleries were cleared, when it was found that there were a sufficient number to constitute a House.

The speakers during the evening were nearly all against the bill, following each other in almost unbroken continuity. They were Mr. Newdegate, Mr. George Palmer, Mr. Plumptre, Captain Polhill, Mr. Bennett, Sir John Walsh, Mr. Francis Scott, Lord Brooke, Captain Vyse, and Mr. Seymour. In favour of the bill, there were only Mr. Hastie and Mr. Sharman Crawford, the Opposition side of the House maintaining a marked silence.

Mr. COLQUHOUN moved the adjournment of the debate till Thursday, to which day the debate was accordingly adjourned.—The House sat till half-past twelve.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

THE FACTORIES BILL.—The House met to-day at twelve o'clock. The Factories Bill formed the chief subject of discussion. The order of the day for resuming the adjourned debate on the second reading of the bill having been moved, Mr. COLQUHOUN addressed the House at some length in favour of the bill. He said he could not see that any evil would arise from a restriction of the hours of labour in factories; but, on the contrary, that it would be attended with many advantages. He would have opposed the bill if he thought that it would be injurious to the British manufacturer, but he did not think such would be the result.—Mr. LABOUCHERE said, if he thought the operatives would be benefited by the provision of this bill, nothing should prevent him from giving it his support; but he thought the House ought well to consider what the effect would be before it gave its sanction to such an important measure.—After several hon. Members had spoken, Sir J. GRAHAM, in reply, contended that in 1844 the ten hours' proposition had only been raised once substantially, and then it had been rejected by the House. After speeches from Mr. S. Crawford, Mr. Duncan, Sir G. Grey, and Mr. Brotherton, Mr. CARDWELL rose, and opposed the bill, on the ground that it would be deeply injurious to 800,000 hard-working manufacturers, whose subsistence was directly dependent upon the wages which they received for their labour. He called upon the House not to curtail the amount of wages on the one hand, whilst it was diminishing the price of the necessities of life on the other. This measure, if passed into law, would bring about first a contention between masters and men on the subject of wages, and afterwards a period of common suffering to both.—Mr. WARD then moved the adjournment of the debate till Monday, which was agreed to, and the House broke up.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

ROYAL ASSENT.—The Royal Assent was given by commission to the following bills:—The Exchequer-bills Bill (£18,380,000); the Annual Indemnity Bill; the Burghs (Scotland) Bill; the Insolvent Debtors Act Continuance Bill; the Great Western Canal Junction Bill; the Sunderland Docks Bill; the Birmingham Cemetery Bill, and some other private bills. The Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Buccleuch, and the Earl of Haddington.

Many petitions were presented against the Charitable Trusts Bill. The Polling Places in Ireland Bill was read a second time, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The proceedings this evening were unimportant. The adjourned debate on the Corn Importation Bill did not come on, as was expected, as the members who had notices of motions would not give way to the Government.

RAILWAY COMMITTEES.

LORDS' COMMITTEES.

The Committee appointed to consider the batch of bills in which the London and York is included, met on Wednesday, for the first time, in one of the rooms in the New Houses of Parliament appropriated as committee-rooms for the House of Lords. Besides an innumerable number of agents, engineers, and witnesses, there were no less than six-and-twenty barristers in attendance at the opening of the proceedings. The Earl of Lovelace was in the chair.

COMMONS' COMMITTEES.

The Railway Groups have got through some business this week. In Group IV. a dense crowd was drawn together on Tuesday to hear the decision on the Perth and Inverness, and Inverness and Elgin lines. Both were thrown overboard; the Perth and Inverness on the ground of its gradients. The official form of decision was that the preamble of the Perth and Inverness, and the Inverness and Elgin Junction Bills are not proved. The Great North of Scotland's preamble passed unopposed.

The preamble of the Somersetshire Midland, or semi-Great Western scheme, has been declared not proved in Group XXIII.

The North-Eastern Extension of the Leeds and Thirsk, 20 miles, had its preamble in Group XLIII.

In Group XXXV., the clauses of the Ambergate, Nottingham and Boston Bill have been taken into consideration, and the Committee adopted them with slight amendments.

The preamble of the Edinburgh and Leith Atmospheric, and Edinburgh, Leith, and Granton lines, are declared not proved.

PRESENTATION OF PLATE.—The friends of Mr. Chesterton have just presented to him a costly silver tea-service and salver, in token of his valuable services to the parish of St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, during twenty-six years past.

ACCIDENT TO MR. GREEN, AT IPSWICH.—Last week Mr. Green made an ascent in his balloon at Ipswich. After remaining in the air for about an hour, Mr. Green accomplished his descent in a barley-field at Oley, about nine miles distant, and, with the aid of some villagers, quickly packed up the balloon, intending to return direct to Ipswich. Owing, however, to its being a fair day here, there was not a convenient vehicle to be got, so that he was obliged to make shift with a small spring cart, into which the apparatus was thrust. Mr. Green seated himself on the top. About half-way home, the seat-board, which had been lying loosely on the package, gradually slipped off, and, getting between the spokes of the wheel, upset the cart, and threw Mr. Green out, the balloon, a mass of silk and cordage, weighing upwards of 4 cwt., falling upon him. In this condition he lay for some time, the driver being unable, without great difficulty, to remove the machine alone. As soon as the unfortunate gentleman was extricated from his painful position, he was brought to the Coach and Horses, Ipswich, and a surgeon was called in, but, happily, it was found he had sustained no material injury, beyond some severe bruises. He was immediately bled, and put to bed, and in the morning had so far recovered, as to be able to get up and walk down to the school-yard, to superintend the packing up the balloon.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS, RECENTLY DECEASED.

ADMIRAL SIR ROBERT WALLER OTWAY, BART., G.C.B.

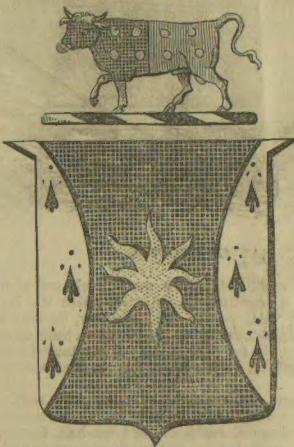


This lamented naval officer, who is stated to have been upwards of a hundred times in action, entered the service in 1784, obtained his Lieutenant's commission in 1793, became Commander in 1795, was promoted to Post rank the same year, and finally reached the degree of Admiral of the White in 1841. On the memorable 1st of June, he distinguished himself as Lieutenant of the *Impregnable*; and when commanding the *Thorn* sloop, captured, after a brilliant action (in which he was wounded), the *Courier* French corvette of superior force. In 1796, in the *Mermaid*, 32, he twice beat off the French frigate, *Vengeance*, 52, near Guadaloupe; and in 1797, when Captain of the *Ceres*, cut out, in his ship's boats, the *Mutine*, privateer of 18 guns and 90 men near Porto Rico. Subsequently, he served at the sieges of Morne Fortunée and Fort Matilda, in the West Indies, and, in command of the *Royal George*, rendered essential and gallant aid to the operations against Copenhagen, in 1801.

Sir Robert Otway was the second son of the late Cooke Otway, Esq., of Castle Otway, county Tipperary, by Elizabeth, his wife, sister of Sir Robert Waller, Bart., of Lisbrian, and derived his descent from a highly respectable family, seated in early times at Middleton and Ingmire Hall, county of Westmoreland, whose late representative was Sir Robert's nephew, the Hon. Robert Otway Cave, M.P. Sir Loftus Otway, who has gained considerable reputation as a military officer, in the Peninsular War, is brother of the Admiral, whose death we record. At the period of his decease, Sir Robert had just completed his 74th year. He was a dignitary of the Imperial Brazilian Order of the Cross, a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath, and Groom-in-Waiting to the Queen. His title of Baronet he received at the Coronation of King William IV., whose friendship and personal regard he enjoyed in an especial degree. By Clementina, his wife, daughter and co-heir of Admiral Holloway, of Wells, he has left three surviving sons (the eldest the present Sir George Graham Otway, Bart.), and five daughters.

The death of Sir Robert took place at his residence, in Hyde Park-gardens, on Tuesday, the 12th inst.

THE HON. AND VERY REV. HENRY LEWIS HOBART, D.D.



This venerable Divine, whose decease occurred on Friday, 8th inst., at Nocton Priory, Lincolnshire, was fourth son of George, third Earl of Buckinghamshire, by Albinia, his wife, daughter and co-heir of Lord Vere Bertie. The noble house from which he derived, has held a high position in Norfolk from a very early period. In the reign of Henry VII., Sir James Hobart, Kt., was his Majesty's Attorney-General, and in the time of James I. the family produced another lawyer of eminence, in the person of the Lord Chief Justice Hobart.

Besides the Deanery of Windsor, to which he succeeded upon the elevation of Dr. Legge to the Bishopric of Oxford, in 1816, Dr. Hobart held also that of Wolverhampton, and the Rectories of Nocton and Wantage, with the Vicarage of Hasely, in Oxfordshire. He married 5th Oct., 1824, Charlotte Selina, daughter of Richard Moore, Esq., of Hampton Court Palace, and has left several children.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

OXFORD.

May 11.

On Saturday last, Martin Joseph Routh, Esq., M.A., of Pembroke College, having been nominated by the founders to the newly endowed law fellowship in that college, was admitted to the same.

On Sunday Mr. Brownlow Poulter, scholar of New College, was admitted fellow of that society.

CAMBRIDGE.

May 13.

At a Congregation held this day, the following degrees were conferred:—

LL.D.—Symeon Taylor Barlett, Clare Hall.

M.A.—William Franks; George Nugée; Frederick Waymouth Gibbs; Charles Sargent; George Chance, Trinity College; Truman Tanqueray, Pembroke College.

B.A.—Wadlow Coleman, Charles Riley, St. John's College; Frederic James Furnival, Trinity Hall; Robert Sibley Baker, Magdalen College; John Poole Haines, Trinity College; Herbert James, King's College; William Philip Snell, Downing College; Edward Manners Dilman Payne, Emmanuel College.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

STEALING LUGGAGE FROM RAILWAYS.

On Tuesday, John Tapson, aged 23, was indicted for stealing a portmanteau, containing a quantity of wearing apparel, which was said to be the property of the Great Western Railway Company; and John Beard, a person of respectable appearance, and who had been admitted to bail, was also indicted as an accessory to the commission of the robbery.

Mr. Clarkson, Mr. Bodkin, and Mr. Doane conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Company. Mr. Parry defended Tapson, and Mr. Ballantine appeared for the prisoner Beard.

From the evidence of several witnesses it appeared that on the 31st March a Mr. David Williams, accompanied by his daughter, came to London by the cheap train upon the Great Western Railway, and a portmanteau which belonged to them was placed in the luggage van, but upon the arrival of the train at Paddington, when the van was examined, it was found that this portmanteau had been stolen. In order to show the connection which the prisoners had with the transaction, it was proved that a few days before the 31st of March, the prisoner Tapson took up his abode at the house of a person named Weatherden, in the New Palace-road, Lambeth, with whom he had some previous acquaintance, and on the morning of the day on which the robbery was committed, he stated that he was about to go to the terminus of the Great Western Railway to meet some of his relations whom he expected from Cornwall; and he at the same time said that he should take the son of Mr. Weatherden, a lad eight years old, along with him, and they left the house together. It appeared that after this he joined the other prisoner, Beard, and that they drank together at several public-houses and beer-shops, and the two prisoners and the little boy eventually proceeded to the Great Western Railway station, where Tapson represented that he had come to meet some persons whom he expected to arrive by the train, and while the prisoners were waiting they treated some of the porters at the station with drink.

Upon the arrival of the cheap train, the prisoner Beard walked past the carriages, calling out the name of "May," while the other prisoner walked up deliberately to the luggage-van, and took out the portmanteau, and walked off with it. He was then joined by the other prisoner, and they got into a cab, and drove to some public-house in the Edgeware road, and from thence to the house of Mr. Weatherden, where both the prisoners alighted, and Tapson went up stairs with the portmanteau, and the other prisoner remained in the kitchen. Shortly afterwards, Tapson came down stairs, and said that he could not find the key of his trunk, and that he must cut it open; and it appeared that, eventually, he did open it with a knife, and took out the contents, a portion of which he pledged immediately afterwards at different pawnbrokers'. With regard to the other prisoner, Beard, in addition to the circumstance of his being proved to be on the spot at the time the robbery was effected, and subsequently at the house of Mr. Weatherden, where the portmanteau was cut open, it was proved that, when he was taken into custody, he denied all knowledge of Tapson, and also declared that he was not with him at the railway station, and that he could bring witnesses forward to prove what he stated; but it did not appear that he had taken any share in the subsequent appropriation of the property.

The Jury returned a verdict of Guilty against Tapson, and Acquitted Beard. Evidence was then adduced to show that the prisoner Tapson had been convicted of felony at Bodmin, in 1844.

The Recorder sentenced Tapson to be transported for seven years; and said he trusted that all persons who had been concerned in pilaging railways would understand that in every case of conviction of that offence, a sentence of transportation would invariably follow.

DEATH OF BOLOGNA.—We have to record the death of Bologna, of theatrical celebrity. Late he was in the company of the Theatre Royal Adelphi, Glasgow, but within the last eight or ten months the decline of years became visible, and he gradually sunk to rest.

COURT AND HAUT TON.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and the Royal Family are still in Town. On Wednesday her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent visited the Queen at Buckingham Palace, and remained to luncheon with her Majesty and Prince Albert. His Royal Highness Prince George also visited her Majesty.

THE QUEEN DOWAGER.—The Queen Dowager will leave Marlborough House for Bushy on Wednesday next; and, according to present arrangements, her Majesty will take her departure from England for Germany a few days afterwards. Cashbury, the seat of the Earl of Essex, has been refurbished, and is now ready for occupancy; but her Majesty is not expected to take up her residence at that seat until after her return from the Continent.

WINDSOR, Thursday Evening.—(From our own Correspondent.)—From instructions which were received at the Castle this morning, from Buckingham Palace, to prepare certain of the apartments for the reception of her Majesty, so that they may be in readiness at a short notice, it would appear that it is not improbable the Court may visit Windsor at a very early period. Indeed, it is now reported that it is not unlikely her Majesty's accouchement may take place at the Castle. It may be mentioned, however, that no official communication on this subject has been received by Mrs. Foster, the housekeeper of the private apartments.

ENTERTAINMENT TO THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE.—The Austrian Ambassador and the Countess Dietrichstein gave a sumptuous banquet on Monday evening to their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, and Prince George of Cambridge. At eight o'clock the guests invited to meet the Royal circle had all assembled, when the Royal Duke and Duchess arrived. Covers were laid for 24 personages at the banquet. The Countess Dietrichstein subsequently had a *soirée*, the company having been invited to meet the Royal visitors.

VISCOUNTS COMBERMERE'S BALL.—On Tuesday night Viscountess Combermere gave a splendid ball, at the noble and gallant Viscount's mansion, in Belgrave-square. A superb suite of drawing-rooms and connecting apartments were thrown open for the reception of a brilliant circle of the aristocracy; the entire range of salons being admirably illuminated and tastefully adorned by a profusion of the choicest flowers. Dancing commenced with a quadrille, at half-past eleven. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, attended by Mr. E. St. John Mildmay, arrived at that hour.

DEATH OF VISCOUNT HOOD.—We have to record the demise of Viscount Hood, who expired on Friday (last week) at the family residence, in Bryanston-square, in the prime of life. The deceased Viscount was eldest son of the Hon. Lieut.-Col. Francis Wheeler Hood, by Caroline, only daughter of the late Sir Andrew J. Hammond, Bart., and was born January 10, 1808.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

CHILDREN POISONED BY THEIR PARENTS FOR THE BURIAL FEES.

An inquiry at Runcorn, Cheshire, which occupied the attention of Mr. H. Churton, Coroner for the county of Chester, nearly the whole of Saturday, owing to the horrible disclosures which have been made, has produced an intense degree of excitement throughout the neighbourhood. The inquest was held on the bodies of two children of Joseph and Mary Pimlett, who were in custody charged with the murder of two of their own offspring, and attempting the murder of a third. Pimlett, it appears, is a ship carpenter, and he with his family came to reside in Runcorn about three months before Christmas. Amongst those who knew him he was considered a respectable, industrious, sober, and humane man. The circumstances which led to the disclosures are as follow:—

On the 6th of March James Pimlett, an infant ten months old, was reported to have been found dead in bed. An inquest was held on the body, and the principal witness examined was the mother, who gave such an account of the illness of the child as to induce the Coroner's jury to believe that death was the result of some disease incident to children, and a verdict was returned of "Found dead." On the 16th of the same month another child, Richard, was taken ill. This child was taken to a medical gentleman, Mr. Edmund Pye, who administered remedies. A day or two afterwards the mother called on Mr. Pye, and in consequence of her representations two alternative powders were given to her. These powders, however, were afterwards found in the house of the parents, having never been administered. The child died on the 21st.

On Monday, the 27th of April, the mother took the third child, named Thomas, to the surgery of Mr. Pye. This was three years and two months old, and the symptoms which he manifested produced no suspicion at the time in the mind of Mr. Pye; and thinking the child was labouring under indigestion, administered a purgative draught. Subsequently, Mr. Pye's suspicions were excited, and he gave information to the magistrates and also to the Coroner for the county, and in the meantime the child having become very ill, he ordered the mother to adopt a particular course, but she avoided doing so. However, being afraid of the life of the child, he was removed from his unnatural parent, and she and her husband taken into custody. Subsequent inquiries prove that arsenic had been administered to the child. The Coroner then issued his warrant for the disinterment of the bodies of James and Richard, and summoned Mr. Pye to make a post-mortem examination.

On the coffins being opened both bodies were remarkably fresh, considering the period of time which had elapsed since death. This led to the supposition that arsenic might have been taken by them, as it has the effect of preserving dead bodies. The internal viscera were removed and analysed, the result being that arsenic in considerable quantities was detected in both the bodies. A great variety of circumstantial evidence was given affecting the charge as against the mother, but there being nothing more than suspicion against the father, he was discharged, and the Jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against Mary Pimlett. The motive for the murders is supposed to have been the temptation of receiving money for the interment of the children from a burial club.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.—On Tuesday an inquest was held at the Angel Tavern, near the railway station at Tunbridge, on the body of John Shorn, a labouring man, who was killed on the South-Eastern Railway. He lived at the village of Leigh, which is close to the line, and on Saturday night had been drinking with some companions at a beer-shop at Tunbridge, and left at half-past eleven o'clock to go home. A pilot engine had been assisting the mail-train, which was rather heavy, from town, and left it at Tunbridge. On proceeding along the up line over a viaduct, about a mile and a half from the town, the engine-driver felt the engine passing over something on the rails. He stopped it as soon as possible, and on walking back to the spot they found the deceased lying across the right-hand rail quite dead, being nearly cut in two. Their impression was, that he was lying across the rail when the accident occurred. The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death," with a nominal dead-end of one shilling on the engine.

INCENDIARISM AT NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—A daring act of incendiarism was committed during the night of Monday last on the farm of Messrs. William and Robert Green, at Crawcrook, about seven miles from Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The stack-yard, containing twelve corn-stacks, was discovered to be on fire early on Tuesday morning, and all attempts to arrest the progress of the devouring element were unavailing. Nine of the stacks were completely destroyed, and the remaining three so much injured as to be entirely useless. Fortunately the stack-yard was situated nearly half a mile from the farm buildings. No clue has yet been obtained to the offender.

THE CHILDREN DROWNED AT BATTERSEA-BRIDGE.—On Monday, Mr. Carter resumed the inquiry on the death of William Matthew Clark, another of the children thrown over Battersea-bridge. The body had been found in the wastegate hole of the Vauxhall and South Lambeth Water-works, abutting in the river, and about two hundred yards below the Red House. A number of witnesses were examined, and the Jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder against Eliza Clark." The inquest on the body of the infant, Jane Clark, whose body was first found, was also renewed by Mr. Wakley, M.P., at the Adam and Eve, Chelsea. There was, as before, much complaint by Mr. Wakley at the non-production of the person of the accused before him; also, of the non-production of the letter she had written. The Coroner spoke of there being a conspiracy entered into by the Magistrates against Coroner's Juries. The evidence was merely confirmatory of the account already given, and the verdict was similar to that given by the other Jury, with an addition, however, complaining of the non-production of the accused, and of the letter in question.

RAILWAY MEETINGS.—There have been various meetings of Railway Companies to consider whether the respective schemes shall or shall not be prosecuted. At a meeting of the Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Railway, held at Nottingham, the Chairman (Mr. T. Bishop) expatiated upon the immense advantages which would be derived from the Line, and it was resolved to amalgamate with the Grand Union. The following is the result of the poll for suspending or proceeding:—For proceeding, 30,291; against, 2,190; Majority, 28,101. Cheers followed the announcement. The scripholders of the Carnwath and West Linton Company have determined to "wind up." The Colchester and Stour Valley Railway shareholders go forward with their project, as do also the Direct Birmingham and Harwich and Eastern Counties Junction shareholders. The line of the latter Company is expected to be opened in about twelve months' time. The Irish Great Western Railway is to be prosecuted with all possible vigour. The London and South Essex Company will be dissolved. At the meeting of shareholders, a majority of three-fifths in favour of the scheme could not be obtained. The directors of the Llynvi Valley and South Wales Junction Railway have been authorised to proceed with their bill. The Manchester and Birmingham and Welsh Junction Company will be "wound up." Although the vote at the Manchester and Bury Atmospheric meeting was not sufficient to carry a "dissolution," it was so marked that the directors intimated they should be much influenced by the result. The directors of the Northern and Southern Connecting Railway have been called upon to abandon their scheme, and a committee of shareholders has been appointed to take steps for arresting the progress of the bill in Parliament. It is not yet finally decided whether or not the Waterford, Wexford, Wicklow, and Dublin Railway shall be gone on with. On Wednesday, a numerous meeting of the Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Dudley, was held, at which it was resolved unanimously to proceed with the Bill before Parliament. On the same afternoon a meeting was held in Birmingham of the Birmingham and Oxford Junction. At the meeting 34,234 shares were represented out of 48,311, and resolutions to proceed with the Bill before Parliament were carried unanimously. The following companies have resolved to proceed with their undertakings:—The Enfield, Edmonton, and Eastern Counties Junction; the Wexford, Carlow, and Dublin (by 10,020 against 918); and the Shrewsbury and Birmingham. The York and Lancaster Railway is to be "wound up." At a meeting held on Thursday, it was unanimously agreed that the Eastern Counties Railway (York Extension) Bill should be proceeded with. An important decision has been given in Group XIV. The Chairman of the Committee stated that the majority were in favour of the South-Eastern Bill.

L E I P Z I G F A I R .



LEIPZIG, FROM THE BATTLE-GROUND.

The termination of the great Easter Commercial Fair of Leipzig to-day (May 16), has suggested the annexed illustrations, drawn and engraved by clever English Artists in Germany. The "Great Fair" still remains an important gathering; for, although our trade with Germany has seriously declined since the Zoll-Verein, or German Customs Union, has been established, the quantity of English manufactured goods sent to the Leipzig annual Commercial Fairs, is still very considerable; and it is to be hoped the passing of Sir Robert Peel's Tariff Reform Measures will materially assist to revive it, by leading the States forming the Zoll-Bund, or Union, to gradually adopt a similar wise and liberal policy in matters of trade.

These fairs are held three times in the year at Easter (*Oster Messe*), commencing the Second Sunday after Easter, the most important of the three, and the largest held in Germany; at Michaelmas (*Michaelle Messe*), commencing the Sunday before Michaelmas-day, ranking the next in importance; and the *Neue Jahr Messe*, commencing on New Year's Day, but of very inconsiderable note. Each fair lasts three weeks, and is frequented by merchants and foreigners from all parts, usually to the number of upwards of 40,000, during the two principal

Fairs. The town is, consequently, then well filled; and a more lively and pleasant sight cannot be well imagined than is presented on what are called the Fair Sundays, by the vast motley crowds of country-folks and peasantry, dressed in their gayest garbs, that pour in by the different rail-roads, to purchase their small stocks of goods for home consumption, and to see the sights; intermingled with Turks, Persians, Greeks, Armenians, Tyrolese, Polish Jews, &c., in their various costumes.

The streets of Leipzig, on these occasions, are occupied by temporary booths, in which merchandise of almost every description is exposed for sale; the large and picturesque market-place, with its fine old *rathhaus*, or town-hall, forms a highly interesting and attractive spot, as it is there the booths are principally congregated, displaying their multifarious contents to captivate the eye; and perhaps it might be safely asserted that within this comparatively confined area, nearly every variety of article adapted to the moderate wants and tastes of man can be readily and cheaply purchased.

Leipzig stands on a plain, a continuation of the great Russian Steppes; its neighbourhood is, therefore, very flat and monotonous, but it is considered to be

fertile. Our view of the Town is taken from about the central site of the two great battles fought there, under Gustavus Adolphus and Napoleon. The small farm-house at the left-hand corner, according to tradition, served for the resting and refreshment place of both commanders during the fatigues of those great conflicts, which each, in their separate way, involved the destinies of nations, and the fate of great principles.

The singular concentration of the German book-trade in Leipzig has been a main cause of the celebrity and wealth of the city. The first two booksellers, who were also printers, that settled in Leipzig, were Steiger and Boskopf, in 1545. The books were sent to Frankfurt Fair for sale; but, subsequently, the Book Fair at Leipzig was instituted; and, in 1667, it was attended by nineteen booksellers from other places. The first catalogue appeared in the sixteenth century. The number of new works announced has gradually increased. It was not till 1816, that above 3,000 works appeared in Germany; in 1828, there were above 5,600; and in 1838, about 6,000. The German booksellers are either publishers (*Verlagshändler*), who sell only their own publications; or booksellers, who publish nothing themselves (*Sortimentshändler*), but sell only what they purchase of the pub-



THE GREAT FAIR, IN THE MARKET-PLACE, LEIPZIG.

NEWSPAPER
ILLUSTRATED
LONDON NEWS



GRAND REVIEW AT VINCENNES, IN HONOUR OF IBRAHIM PACHA.

lishers. Now, however, these latter are generally publishers also, by which means they are able to make exchanges with other publishers. It is the general custom for the publishers to let the retail booksellers have their publications on sale and return for a certain time, at the expiration of which, payment is made for what has been sold, and the remainder may be returned. The peculiar feature in the German book-trade is, that every publisher has his commissioner at Leipzig, to whom he sends prospectuses and specimens of his new publications, which the commissioner distributes and makes known. A bookseller out of Leipzig, A, sends his orders, not to the publisher, B, but to his own commissioner, C, at Leipzig, who delivers them to the commissioner of the publisher, D; and the latter gives the books to C, and keeps the order to send to B.

At the Easter Fair, booksellers from all Germany, Sweden, Denmark, the Russian Baltic Provinces, (where the German language is spoken), from the Netherlands, and even from France and England, meet at Leipzig to settle their accounts, &c.; and this gathering has acquired additional importance by the establishment of a Booksellers' Exchange, a building of handsome design.

GRAND REVIEW AT VINCENNES.

The military spectacle represented in our Engraving, took place on Tuesday week, at Vincennes, near Paris, in honour of Ibrahim Pacha. His Highness arrived at Vincennes at ten o'clock, and immediately mounted his horse, and proceeded, with the Princes, his sons and brothers, to St. Maur, where the Dukes de Nemours, Montpensier, and Augustus of Saxe Coburg-Gotha, in the midst of the troops, waited for his Highness. Nearly 15,000 men belonging to the different regiments forming the garrison of Paris were assembled on the esplanade of St. Maur. Immense crowds, from Paris and the environs, flocked to Vincennes to see the Pacha and to salute him on his passage. Ibrahim wore, over one of his most splendid costumes, the grand *cordon* of the Legion of Honour; and, mounted on a magnificent Arabian horse, attracted all eyes by his warlike mien.

At the time the sham fight was commencing, the Count of Paris and his brother arrived on the ground, accompanied by Lieutenant-General Baudrand, Colonel de Chabaud Latour, and M. Regnier. The presence of the Royal children gave an additional attraction to the *fête*. The Egyptian Prince, and Soliman Pacha, placed themselves on an elevated spot, in order to observe minutely the military movements. A brigade, commanded by Major-General Carré, immediately attacked the plateau; but, at the same moment, another troop, in ambush in the wood of Vincennes, made a sudden *sortie*, and, commanded by Lieutenant-General Sebastiani, vigorously repulsed the attack. A regular combat then ensued, which presented all the characteristics of a real engagement. The enemy, at last, retired, and effected its retreat in squadrons

across the village of St. Maur. Ibrahim appeared to take a lively interest in the action, and the spectators often watched the old soldier, to trace the emotion that lit up his countenance during the Review.

The sham fight terminated, the Princes rejoined Ibrahim, and conversed with him on the spectacle that had just been offered to him. The Princes, on their return from St. Maur to Vincennes, were everywhere hailed by the liveliest acclamations. Ibrahim, like their Royal Highnesses, wished to return on horseback. "In your country, as in ours," he gaily exclaimed, "it is on horseback that a General should be seen." At Vincennes, the Pacha visited the new barracks prepared for the artillery, as well as the chapel and dungeon. A magnificent banquet, to which all the officers who had taken a part in the proceedings of the day had been invited, terminated appropriately this splendid *fête*, which will long be remembered by all those who had the good fortune to be present at it.

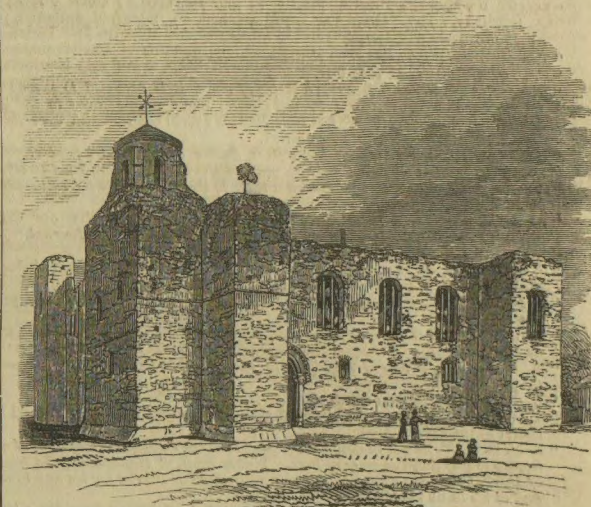
NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

COLCHESTER CASTLE.

Colchester, supposed to be the Camalodunum of the Romans, appears to have been a place of great importance during the tenure of Britain by that powerful people; perhaps, the best colonists the world ever saw. To use the phrase of one of the historians of Essex, "bushels" of Roman coins have been found at Colchester; and Roman brick is the general material of the ancient buildings—the Castle, for example.

The construction of this stronghold, however, belongs to the Norman times, when, although Colchester had diminished in importance as London increased, it was still a place of considerable note. The remains of the Castle stand upon an eminence northward of the High-street, and form a parallelogram. It was built by Endo de Ric, Steward of the Household to William Rufus, and in plan it resembled other Anglo-Norman castles. The present southern entrance on the ground-floor is supposed to have been constructed at a later period than the main building. The ancient portal was on the northern side, where, at a considerable height, the vestiges are still to be seen. The large windows now in the walls of the Castle appear to have been opened in places where there were originally only loop-holes. The remains of a gallery within the thickness of the walls may yet be traced, and chimneys, as well as drains, constructed in the usual manner, exist. The keep is still in a good state of preservation, and its walls are twelve feet thick. The building, which is a compound of flint-stone and Roman brick, is so hard that it has frustrated repeated attempts to demolish it for the sake of the materials; and long may it continue to defeat such miscalculating levellers: it is of the same age as the Moot Hall, engraved in No. 144 of our

Journal; but which has not been so lasting in its resistance to the hand of "improvement." From the dimensions of the keep, about 168 feet by 127, there must have been, at least, three or four large chambers on every floor.



COLCHESTER CASTLE.

The Castle was formerly Crown property, and the town was feudatory to it; so that it is an interesting relic of early history.

"THE GREAT BRITAIN" STEAM-SHIP.

This magnificent steam-ship sailed from Liverpool on Monday morning, for New York, carrying out 28 passengers and a large cargo. She passed down the Mersey in splendid style, and at a speed not surpassed by the finest sea-going steamers; thus proving the whole of the alterations made in her since her last voyage, to be decidedly beneficial.

These new fittings are thus described in the *Manchester Guardian*. They include another screw, and masts and spars of a somewhat different character from those under which the *Great Britain* has four times crossed the Atlantic, and which are decidedly more in accordance with nautical notions. Her propeller, which is of immense strength, and weighs seven tons, has four vanes, each of great width; her former one had six, but of less width. The diameter of the propeller, from tip to tip of the opposite vanes, is the same as before—15 feet 6 inches. Her masts are now five in number, the whole of which are stepped upon the keelson, and fitted with rope rigging. In her previous voyages, the *Great Britain* had six masts, fitted with wire rigging; and all, with the exception of the mainmast, were stepped upon deck; and, therefore, admitted of her being lowered at the pleasure of her commander. This it was thought might have proved an advantage when steaming a succession of contrary gales; but, experience soon proved that such an advantage was more than counterbalanced by attendant evils, which it is not necessary now to enlarge upon. Having five masts, her style of rig does not admit a nautical cognomen; but we will attempt a description of it by comparison:—15 yards, or thereabouts, forward of the funnel (which is itself 20 feet forward of the centre of the vessel) stands the mainmast; which, instead of bearing aloft a single topmast, as formerly, carries a maintopmast and topgallant mast, with their respective spars—similar in every respect, only of greater bulk, to those of the mainmast of one of the largest Atlantic liners. Aboard the funnel, about 20 yards, stands a similar mast, less bulky, perhaps, but of the same height, and fitted just as the one previously described. Her foremast and fourth and fifth masts, with the exception of being stepped upon the keelson, present the same outward characteristics as the old ones, and carry the same description of sails—spencers. With her old style of rig, the *Great Britain* behaved well under the canvass; she made part of her last homeward passage entirely without the aid of steam, in consequence of her propeller having been shattered so as to be rendered useless. She even then, under great disadvantages, outsailed two or three liners she fell in with, and frequently accomplished 10 and 11 knots per hour.

In an experimental trip, made on the 30th ult., the *Great Britain* beat the Cork steamer *Nimrod*, and the mail steamer *Prince*, about an hour; and she held way for about half an hour with the fast new iron steamer *Sea-King*.

There are other improved points in the *Great Britain's* new fittings; her boilers give ample steam without any difficulty, with easy firing, and the consumption of coals is much lessened. The alterations in the pumps, valves, &c., have answered every expectation, and the screw is beyond doubt better than the old one. The highest speed in the above trip (steam alone) was 11½ nautical, or about 13½ statute miles per hour, the engines at the time making 16½ revolutions.

Our Engraving of the newly-rigged vessel is from a clever sketch by Mr. J. Walter, the marine artist, of Bristol.



THE "GREAT BRITAIN" STEAM-SHIP, NEWLY RIGGED.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, May 17.—Rogation Sunday.—Fifth Sunday after Easter.
 MONDAY, 18.—Trial by Jury first instituted in England, 970.
 TUESDAY, 19.—St. Dunstan.
 WEDNESDAY, 20.—La Fayette died, 1834.—Columbus died, 1506.
 THURSDAY, 21.—Ascension Day.—Holy Thursday.
 FRIDAY, 22.—Alexander Pope born, 1688.
 SATURDAY, 23.—Francis shot at Queen Victoria, 1842.

HIGH WATER at London-bridge, for the Week ending May 23.

Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h. m. 7 14	h. m. 8 23	h. m. 9 1	h. m. 9 36	h. m. 10 45	h. m. 11 18
h. m. 7 14	h. m. 8 23	h. m. 9 1	h. m. 9 36	h. m. 10 45	h. m. 11 18
h. m. 7 14	h. m. 8 23	h. m. 9 1	h. m. 9 36	h. m. 10 45	h. m. 11 18

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- "An Oronian."—A View of the Metropolitan Church named will shortly appear.
- "A. L."—Liverpool.—The Views from Monte Video did not reach us in time, or they would have been very acceptable.
- "S. C. T."—Islington, has a Literary and Scientific Institution in the parish where he lives; or, a subscription to the London Mechanics' Institution, Southampton-buildings, Holborn, might answer the purpose.
- "Civilian."—The pickets of an army are certain numbers of troops, infantry or cavalry, who are always ready to march on the first order. A staff, in the army, consists of a quarter-master-general, adjutant-general, and majors of brigade.
- "J. P."—Belfast should forward the coin, or a cast, to Mr. Webster, Medallist, 17, Great Russell-street, Covent-garden.
- "A Subscriber."—is thanked, but the Sketch of the Tamar will not suit.
- "El Cetera."—The average height of Englishmen is placed by Mr. W. B. Brent at 5 feet 7 1/2 inches. Mr. Brent's paper, read to the British Association in 1844, doubtless, gives the average weight; but we have not the entire document for reference.
- "A Subscriber."—The annual income of the Lord Mayor of London from the City revenue is about £11,000; but the expenditure of a hospitable Mayor usually exceeds this allowance, and trenches upon his private fortune. A Country Subscriber will be entitled to our forthcoming Large View of Dublin.
- "An Old Subscriber."—Cheltenham.—"Mill's System of Logic" is a work of high character. Our Subscriber will find two excellent papers on Logic in "The Westminster Review," Jan. 1838; and "The Edinburgh Review," Apr. 1833.
- "N. R."—A small Treatise on Angling will give the Fishing Stations in and near London.
- "J. A. J." hints that good Protestants should raise a fund for Queen Pomare, who is stated to be in great want of cash for her own use.
- "Mater."—Hendon, should apply to the police for protection.
- "A Constant Subscriber."—Bridgewater.—Cauls are little membranes found on some children, encompassing the head when born. This is thought a good omen to the child itself, and the vulgar opinion is that whoever possesses a caul will be fortunate, and escape danger. Hence, credulous persons going to sea sometimes purchase caul.
- "Lilian." may obtain, by order, of any bookseller, a pamphlet describing Mr. Ward's air-tight glazed cases for growing plants. (Van Voorst, 1, Paternoster-row.)
- "Henry's Consolatory Epistle" will not suit.
- "Hydro-Chloric" may recover goods illegally distrained for lodger's rent, if he apply to a magistrate.
- "E. B."—Kennington.—We have not room for the Engraving.
- "E. W. L." letter has been forwarded to a Lithographic Establishment.
- "A Subscriber."—Bantry.—The cost of the Thames Tunnel is correctly stated at £446,000. Its history has been illustrated in No. 48 of our Journal.
- "M. C."—Wills.—Sheet Lightning is caused by the electric discharge permeating generally the surrounding masses of weakly electrified vapour: it is harmless, and even beneficial, as indicating the restoration of atmospheric and electric equilibrium after it has been destroyed by the rapid succession of cold to heat. Forked Lightning, on the other hand, shows, in its aberrations, that it is near terrestrial objects, and is, therefore, justly regarded as dangerous. Sir Humphry Davy says: "in a violent thunder-storm, when the sound instantly succeeds the flash, the persons who witness the circumstances, are in some danger; when the interval is a quarter of a minute, they are secure."
- "Piscator."—Turin.—We have to consult, in our Illustrations, various tastes. If we may judge by our Correspondent's nom supposé, he has his predilection as well as the lovers of horse-racing.
- "Timothy Tablet."—The Sketches shall appear shortly.
- "C. C. C."—The solution is correct.
- "Gleaner."—Clemence Isaura, (a statue of whom it is proposed to place in the Luxembourg Gardens), was a French poetess, stated to have lived in the latter half of the fifteenth century. She instituted the Floral Games which were held on May 1, at Toulouse, until the Revolution.
- "An Old Subscriber."—Bradford.—The Kent, Sussex, or Hampshire papers.
- "Mentor" should apply to a Patent Agent, as Messrs. Robertson, Fleet-street.
- "A Subscriber."—Louth, should address a letter to the Secretary to the Institution in question.
- "An Admirer of Native Talent."—We are glad to receive, inter alia, our Correspondent's approval of Mr. Harvey's highly poetic designs for our Journal.
- "E. S."—We regret that we have not room for the Lines.
- "J. K."—We would recommend that inquiries be made of the Music Publishers as to the best town in the South of England for teaching.
- "A. D."—The periodical in question is piratical, and is by no means to be depended upon.
- "Zeta."—There was but one competing candidate with Mr. Parry, and it was decided therefore by the Committee that the Second Prize should not be awarded.
- "M. W."—Apply to any Music Publisher, but Hamilton's Catechisms would answer the purpose.
- "L. G."—A cavatina has words attached to it, and is of a serious character.
- "A Subscriber."—We are not aware what is the exact pay of a Captain and Lieutenant in the French Army.
- "S. M. R."—We do not remember an instance in the Peerage of England, of a title limited to any given number of lives. Walter Scott, of Highchester, the husband of Mary, Countess of Buccleuch, was created Earl of Tarras for his own life only, and at his death the title, of course, expired.
- "Myrrha."—The Royal Horse Guards are called the "Blues," from the colour of their uniform—Tagliani is married.
- "Zepatecas."—The length of time a name may be on the list before a commission is obtained depends on the amount of interest which secures the application. Without some kind of influential assistance, great delay is sure to intervene.
- "Corporal B."—The Gazette from the War Office depends on circumstances. Generally, military promotions are announced about once a week.
- "Henri." and "Arma Virumque Cano."—A written application to the Herald's College would be attended to.
- "S. E. M. C."—Beamish, should apply to Mr. Cruchley, Publisher, Fleet-street.
- "The Serk Guide," and "Ingli's Channel Islands," may be consulted with advantage.
- "Art-Union."—A List of the Art-Union Prizes may be had at the Society's Office, Trafalgar-square, Charing-cross.
- "W. G. C."—Hoxton.—Yes.
- "Necessitas" should apply to a Lav Stationer, or advertise.
- The Lines by "Y." will not suit.
- "W. B." co. Cork, should apply to the Clerk to the Government School of Design, Somerset House.
- "Isaac Walton" had better pay about one guinea for his rod.
- "Yankee" will be entitled to the free use of the Drawing.
- "A Practical Fisher's" Letter has been referred to "X. Y."
- "A Subscriber."—Fenchurch-street.—The Office of the Provident Clerks' Association is at 42, Moorgate-street. A letter addressed to Dr. Mullinder, the Secretary, will receive a courteous reply.
- "Bachelor Blush" is a wag.
- "Auto-baths."—We believe not.
- "W. H. B."—See "London's Arboretum" for the best methods of measuring the height of trees, &c.
- "W. T."—Middleborough, is thanked for the Sketch; but we have not room to engrave it.
- "E. G. K."—We cannot enter into the comparative merits of actors.
- "J. S."—Hitchin.—Apply to Parker and Co., Military Booksellers, 30, Charing-cross.
- "A. M."—Stafford-ron, is quizzing.
- "Inquirer."—We shall speedily take occasion to illustrate Van Dieman's Land.
- "A Student."—Limehouse.—"Taylor's System of Short Hand," improved by Harding.
- "E. L. C." is thanked for the Sketch, for which we had not room. A set of Wood Engravers' tools may be purchased for about 20s. of Mr. Penn, Newgate-street.
- "Nimrod."—Tewford.—The distance from the Kingston Railway to Epson Downs is about seven miles, and on the race-days, conveyances are in attendance.
- "T. T."—Hanley.—The report of the New Musical Instrument has been received, and will, most probably, appear.
- "A. M. K." will find some excellent information on Diving Bells under the article "Submarine Descent," in the "Penny Cyclopaedia."
- "T. N. B."—Ludlow.—A Set of Tools for Wood Engraving may be purchased of Mr. Penn, Newgate-street.
- "Zeta." and "Perthensis."—Taylor's "Linear Perspective," new edition, improved by Jopling; or, Jopling's "Isometrical Perspective," which is preferable to the common Perspective, on many accounts. Both works are published by Taylor, Wellington-street, Strand.
- "Speranza."—We do not recommend hair-dyes.
- "A Mate's Mate" should apply at 157, Leadenhall-street.
- "J. L."—Whitehaven, is thanked; but, we have not room.
- "Dacot."—We are anxious to return the Sketches of Dacot, &c., but cannot decipher our Correspondent's signature.
- "A. F. J."—We do not understand the question.
- "M. S. F."—Dr. Buckland's "Bridgewater Treatise" was written with the object named by our Correspondent. We are not in possession of a reply to the first question.
- "Duncan" should apply to any Music-seller.

** We have received a copy of a Series of Drawings of the Experimental Squadron, lithographed by Haghe, from Paintings by Gilbert. They are beautifully executed, and are appropriate Illustrations of her Majesty's Visit to Spithead, July 15, 1845.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1846.

THE military revolutions, or rather revolts of Spain, are almost incomprehensible; some principle there must be involved in them, but what it is we cannot discover. They succeed each other so rapidly, that the blood of one batch of victims is scarcely dry on the ground before we hear of a score of others undergoing the same fate as the close of a similar career. The history of any one of these attempts is the history of all. Officers of different ranks and various degrees of reputation, stationed in some town distant from the capital, hear of a change of Ministry or the break-up of a Cabinet. They immediately meet and "pronounce," as it is called, for whom or for what never distinctly appears. They seize a fort or strong position, and one of them assumes the command of the place, proclaiming martial law, and shooting a few citizens, by way of intimidating the others into non-resistance. Intelligence reaches the capital, and a General somebody, or somebody who wants to be General, is despatched with a few regiments to the locality. Allowing for Spanish delays and procrastination, which pervade everything, the force in due time arrives; and then, provided the repressive body does not "pronounce" too, a fight takes place between these brothers in arms; the insurgents are generally defeated, and then a court-martial is held. Every prisoner brought before it is found guilty, as a matter of course; and the moment the sentence is pronounced, they are marched out to the first convenient spot that offers, and are there shot, with as little ceremony as so many dogs. If the insurgents beat the troops sent against them, the case is reversed—the commanders of the invading regiments being shot instead of shooting; the bloody termination of the scene being the only thing certain and invariable: the revolters then receive commissions and promotions instead of those sent to repress the revolt—and thus the game goes on. As to the people of Spain, it does not appear that they ever interfere in the matter in the slightest degree: whoever holds the fort, or garrison, or citadel, as the case may be, is the ruler; and as, in all these cases, the people and their dwellings are fired upon and battered down by both parties with perfect impartiality, it really is no matter to them who has the upper hand: they have no voice in the matter; in other countries, the Army is paid by the people for the defence of the State, and the protection of life and property. Not so in Spain—there the State belongs to the Army: we firmly believe that three foreign invasions would not have inflicted half the injury on the people of Spain that they have suffered during the last ten years from their own Army alone. If this turbulent and faithless force murdered and slaughtered each other only, they might be left to an internecine war between themselves; but their quarrels shake the whole of society, and render it impossible for trade, commerce, arts, religion, or anything that distinguishes civil life from that of the savage, to take root and prosper.

One of these purposeless insurrections has just terminated: many officers taken in arms against the (at present) Queen's troops, were shot immediately. It is said they died with a "courage and firmness worthy a better cause." Why cannot that better cause be found? Why are Spanish soldiers, of all others in Europe, so faithless to their allegiance, while the national character is that of a people possessing a keen sense of personal honour? For the slightest reason, or no reason at all, officers revolt. In France and England, Ministers are changed without military insurrections; yet Soult and Wellington have been more celebrated as military leaders than any name in the Spanish service. They have both been in and out of office, without the troops thinking of "pronouncing" in their favour; they remember they have another duty to their Sovereign and country, which is the sentiment the Spanish army seems totally deficient in. The disgust we feel at the brutal ferocity of the victors in these struggles, is increased by knowing that the avengers of to-day are quite ready to be traitors and rebels to-morrow, if they could gain by it a year's pay, or a grade of promotion. This is the source of the evil. Treachery and revolt have so often been rewarded by place and power, that it seems almost legitimate to trade in them.

THE debate on the Ten Hours Bill is again adjourned; the House was prepared for a division on Wednesday afternoon, but six o'clock overtook the Legislators who had made "no note of time," and rendered it impossible. This imperative necessity of breaking up at a certain hour, by "standing order," will prove sometimes an inconvenience, as on the present occasion.

It is confidently asserted that had a division been taken the Ministry would have been in a minority, and that they purposely prolonged the discussion, or rather permitted it to prolong itself, as all discussions have a tendency to do, in order to escape the adverse decision.

Had the Government been left in a minority on the Factory Bill, while the Corn Bill and the Tariff are still pending, it would have been most embarrassing to it, and serious in its consequences to the country. We think it is an error to make the Limitation of Labour a question in which any decision should affect the Government. All the interference hitherto has worked well, and disproved the predictions of ruin that were made upon them; and it seems the general conviction that we may go farther on the principle with perfect safety.

The Protectionist party is quite consistent in supporting the Ten Hours Bill; they recognise the necessity of such interference; but, whether some wish to avenge themselves on Peel for his desertion does not give edge to their zeal, may be doubted. Had he kept to them, they would have defeated this Bill, not on principle, but in order not to involve the Government in difficulty. Now, their object is to create that embarrassment, and the passing of the Factory Bill is highly probable. If it does, another "revoke" will be impossible. The day in which the Premier could make the House "rescind" a vote is gone. His own party is divided; and all now depends on which section of that party is joined by the Opposition, which is certainly not bound to repress its opinions to keep him in office. This is the penalty of abandoning old political ties—and no one is more aware of it than the Premier himself.

THE Caledonia steamer arrived on Thursday morning, from New York; the intelligence she brings is pacific, and we hope the uncertainty in which the commercial community on both sides the Atlantic has been involved, is almost at an end. The question begins to get wearying, and, to the well disposed, somewhat of a nuisance; war itself might be a not much greater evil than so much talk about it. The House of Representatives has accepted the "peace amendments" of the Committee of the Senate, and it is decided that the notice terminating the joint occupancy of Oregon is given as a means of "amicable settlement." The *New York Herald* states:—

That negotiations have been resumed between the Secretary of State and the British Minister; that the *Caledonia* brought out a new offer from the British Government, of a character so favourable that there was very little doubt but that it would be accepted; that a treaty in relation to Oregon was in the course of preparation, and would soon be sent to the Senate for ratification; and a dozen other things connected with this matter—all of which require confirmation. One thing in relation to this question we do know, and that is, that it is losing its interest on this side of the Atlantic; all fears of a collision between the two countries upon the matter in dispute have disappeared, and there is not that anxiety manifested for a speedy settlement heretofore experienced.

POSTSCRIPT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

RELIGIOUS OPINIONS RELIEF BILL.—On the motion for going into Committee on this bill, the Bishop of Exeter objected that it was contrary to the oath of supremacy and the law of the land.—The Lord Chancellor and the Bishop of St. David's supported the bill. After some discussion, the clauses of the bill were sent through Committee, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

IMPRISONMENT OF MEMBERS.—Mr. P. BUTLER gave notice, that on Thursday next he should move for a Select Committee to inquire whether the House had the power to compel members to attend upon committees, and whether the exercise of the power of imprisoning members for not attending was sanctioned by the law of the land.

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE ON THE CORN-BILL.

The order of the day having been read for the adjourned debate on the third reading of this bill, Mr. COLQUHOUN addressed the House against the bill. He gave his opinion that if the measure was carried it would hold out false hopes to many, and in the end be destructive to the agricultural interests of the country.

Mr. C. WOOD supported the bill.

Mr. P. BENNETT opposed it.

Mr. HUDSON said he should oppose the measure, as he considered that large importations of foreign corn would be most detrimental to the British farmer.

MR. SMITH O'BRIEN.—On Thursday an address was presented to Mr. Smith O'Brien from some members of the '82 Club, at Dublin. In the course of his reply the hon. member said, he could not but think that the constitutional questions at issue were of the highest moment, not alone to the Irish people, but also to each Member of the Legislature, and to every Parliamentary elector in the United Kingdom. Upon the present occasion, however, he was contented to waive all reference to collateral issues, and to justify his conduct upon the simple ground upon which it had received their approval; namely, that until a domestic legislature should be obtained for Ireland, his own country demanded his undivided attention. Let them rest assured that those exertions would not be withheld so long as life and liberty remained to him, until Ireland should again *fit* the declaration of 1782—"that no body of men was entitled to make laws to bind the Irish nation, save only the Monarch, the Lords, and the Commons of Ireland."

THE DEANERY OF WINDSOR.—This valuable Church preferment, just rendered vacant by the decease of the Hon. and Very Rev. Dr. Hobart, who expired at Notton Priory, Lincolnshire, on Friday last, is worth between £3000 and £4000 per annum. Amongst the Clergy who have been mentioned as likely to succeed the late Dean, are the Hon. and Rev. Charles Leslie Courtenay, her Majesty's Domestic Chaplain; the Rev. Dr. Hawtreys, the Head Master of Eton College; and Lord Wriothlesley Russell, who was appointed to a Canonry at Windsor about five years ago. The name of Lord John Thynne, one of the Prebendaries of Westminster, has likewise been mentioned.

DEATH OF SIR WM. MILLER, BART.—We have to record the death of Sir Wm. Miller, Bart., better known as Lord Gleneloe, who expired last Saturday morning, at Barking, Ayrshire. The deceased Baronet was in his 90th year. He is succeeded by his eldest son, now Sir Thomas Miller, Bart.

THE LATE MURDER AT BATTERSEA.—Yesterday, *Eliza Clark* was tried at the Central Criminal Court, charged with the wilful murder of her daughter, Ann Clark, by throwing her into the Thames, and was acquitted on the ground of insanity.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

SPAIN.—Letters from Madrid received yesterday state, that accounts had been received there from Malaga, announcing an attempt to assassinate some of the authorities of the latter city. On the 2nd instant the Political Chief was walking in the street, accompanied by several officers of distinction, when a volley was fired upon them by a band of assassins, which mortally wounded the Colonel of the Provincial Regiment of Granada. The *Espectador* has been sentenced to pay a fine of 50,000 reals (£500) for an article on the Narvaez Ministry. A slight *émeute* had broken out at Seville, but had been immediately suppressed.

COUNTRY NEWS.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR MEIKLEHAM.—William Meikleham, Esq., LL.D., Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University, died on Thursday (last week), at his house in the College, Glasgow. This removal strikes off the last link, except one or two, of those who remained to connect the present Professors with the distinguished men—Millar, Jardine, Wilson, Young, Richardson, and others, who, about the close of the last and the commencement of the present century, shed lustre on the University, and conferred signal benefits on education.

STATE OF TRADE IN BIRMINGHAM.—In consequence of the high prices which the iron masters still insist on, the manufacturers of Birmingham and Wolverhampton find themselves unable to compete with Belgium and other continental countries, and are, in consequence, thrown almost wholly on the home market, which is in a state of great depression. It is a fact which ought to be instructive to the great combination of British iron masters to obtain prices, that Belgium has recently imported iron from the United States, manufactured it, and sent the manufactured article to England, where it has been sold to a profit at less money than the British manufacturer could dispose of his goods for.

ROBBERY TO A LARGE AMOUNT AT LIVERPOOL.—On Saturday last property to a large amount was stolen in Liverpool. It has been a custom of long standing amongst the commercial firms of Liverpool to send their cash, bills of exchange, railway scrip, and other valuable documents, in tin boxes, to the banks and other places, there to be kept in strong iron safes until the following morning. Upon the afternoon of Saturday last, a highly-respectable firm sent their box by one of their clerks to be deposited, as usual, until Monday morning, in the Royal Bank. The box contained, at the time it was despatched from the office, bills of exchange to the large amount of £22,000. Most of the bills will become due in the months of June, July, August, and September. The largest of them seems to be the one drawn by Livingston, Syers, and Co., on James Aikin, which was for £2186, payable on the 5th of October. It is gratifying to know that the particulars of all the bills had been kept, and that payment of them has been stopped. The box also contained the manifest of the ship *Passenger*, cash to the amount of £47, and scrip in several railways. The clerk states that he took the box direct to the Royal Bank, laid it upon the counter, and returned to the office. The clerk at the bank states, upon the other hand, that the box, if left upon the counter, was not seen by him, and that, upon looking over all the other boxes which had been sent in upon Saturday evening, and missing this identical one from the number, he reported the circumstance. Nothing further was heard of the matter for some hours afterwards, when the missing box, emptied of the whole of its contents, was found in one of the streets of the town. It was immediately conveyed by the policeman on duty to the central police station, where a report of the robbery was subsequently made. Placards, giving the particulars of the bills of exchange and scrip, have since been printed and sent to all parts of the country. No tidings of the contents of the box have been heard. The clerk of the firm, and also the clerk of the bank, adhere rigidly to what they have stated from the first—the one that he delivered the box at the counter, the other that he never received it in charge.

SEIZURE OF STOLEN GOODS AT NORWICH.—A most extensive seizure has just been made by the police in Norwich, consisting of various kinds of manufactures, of which the materials had been systematically purloined by the persons employed in working them. The property taken was of such a variety that it is almost impossible to enumerate it, and in so large a quantity that it had to be conveyed to the Guildhall in carts. The whole of it was deposited in the Council Chamber, which bore the appearance of a great mart. There were shawls and dresses of every description—handkerchiefs of all colours, manufactured and ready for sale—all kinds of silks and yarn, both in a raw and manufactured state—besides reels and bobbins of every size. The total value of the property taken was estimated to be worth very nearly one thousand pounds.

THE MARRIAGE OF LADY ANNA GRENVILLE.—It is said that the marriage of Lady Anna Grenville, only daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Buckingham, and Mr. Langton, grandson of Colonel Gore Langton, M.P., will not be solemnised till the week after next.

DEMISE OF THE SON OF OLD MORTALITY.—Mr. Robert Paterson, a worthy, quiet character of the olden school, who remembered much of the early history of Galloway, and the agricultural changes which have so conspicuously improved the appearance of the country during the present and preceding centuries, died at his place of residence, Balmacellan Village (Scotland), on the 30th ultimo, at the ripe age of ninety-one years. His own parent—the hero of Sir Walter Scott in "The Tales of My Landlord"—he of course remembered well; but from innate modesty was shy of speaking of him in the company of strangers. Latterly "Old Mortality," familiar from his youth upward with the chisel and mallet, devoted himself entirely to monumental masonry—some grave-yard for the most part his workshop; and hence the sobriquet by which he was known by all the parish boys wherever he wandered.

FIRE AT A MANUFACTORY NEAR MANCHESTER.—Last Saturday night a fire, which resulted in the destruction of a considerable amount of property, occurred in Albion-street, Gaythorn. The fire took place at the mills occupied by Messrs. Galt, Brownlie, and Co., and by Mr. John Cowell, called the Medlock-bridge Mills, which were filled with machinery for the manufacture of shirtings, twills, &c. In addition to the building already named, the same parties occupy a large building, five stories high, communicating with the former by means of a doorway, and also by shafting, and with this larger building, which runs at right angles to the other, the flames had communicated, though only to a trifling extent, when the engines arrived. As soon as the engines had been got into play the attention of the firemen was directed to the preservation of the larger mill, and, with some difficulty, an effectual check was put to the spread of the flames in that direction. A mill in the occupation of Messrs. T. and R. Hope, smallware manufacturers, running parallel to the one first on fire, but separated from it by a narrow yard, was also in imminent jeopardy. Another building, which was for some time in great danger, was a warehouse, two stories high, in the occupation of Messrs. Galt and Co. The fire was discovered about half-past nine, and, by about a quarter-past eleven o'clock, the flames had been greatly subdued, the roof of the smaller mill having fallen in, and the greater portion of the building having been consumed. The total damage to the stock and building is estimated at about £3,500, and the insurances, which are effected in the North British, West of England, and Sun offices, amount to £3,400. The building belongs to the Earl of Balcarras. It is not known how the fire originated, but it is suggested that it may have been caused from the timbers communicating with the flue of the boilers. The unfortunate occurrence has deprived, for a time, about 200 work-people, male and female, of employment.

POLICE.

THE FORGED SCRIP OF THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE RAILWAY.

On Tuesday, at the MANSTON-HOUSE, John Bannister Faulkner and Benham Fabian, who were on Saturday last charged with having disposed of forged scrip of the above-mentioned Company, were put to the bar, and Mr. Wilde appeared as counsel for them.

In the evidence given by Mr. Solomons, that gentleman mentioned the name of a Mr. Richards, through whose hands the forged scrip shares had passed. It is proper here to state, that Daniel Forrester, the officer, having received instructions as to parties who were supposed to have been mixed up in the transactions alluded to, handed in the following letter from Mr. Richards, and said that gentleman would, he had no doubt, be in attendance.

Sir,—Understanding that you wish to see me respecting the evidence necessary in the alleged forgery of the Buckinghamshire Railway scrip, I beg to say that I am too unwell to attend at present, but shall be quite prepared, before the next examination, to give you every information in my power respecting the transactions in which I have been concerned.

Yours obediently,

EDWARD RICHARDS.

58, Moorgate-street, 9th May, 1846.
Mr. D. Forrester, Mansion House.

Mr. Huddleston, barrister, said he appeared on the part of Mr. Clarke, the gentleman who was charged at Guildhall, on Saturday last, by Mr. Edwards, clerk to Mr. Robins, a stock and sharebroker, with having been concerned in the fraud, although he (Mr. Clarke) had attended at the Mansion-house on Friday, to give all the aid in his power to bring the guilty parties to justice. Mr. Clarke was a person of well-known respectability, and he felt an anxiety to state all that he knew of the transactions, of which, as far as he was concerned, there was never the most distant idea of concealing anything.

Mr. Baldwin, for the prosecutor, wished the cases to be adjourned, as there had not been time to procure the necessary witnesses.

Mr. Huddleston submitted, that such a course would be extremely unjust to his client, who, it was manifest, knew nothing at all about the dishonourable part of any one of the transactions which had taken place.

Alderman Gibbs: Let Mr. Clarke come forward.
Mr. John Clarke then entered the justice-room, and took his station not at the bar but at the bottom of the table.

Mr. Doane, the barrister, attended on the part of Mr. Richards, who was ready to state all he knew as a witness.

Mr. Huddleston said he was desirous to have Mr. Richards examined as to the connection which Mr. Clarke had with the transactions. Mr. Clarke had been in communication with Daniel Forrester on Friday, and attended voluntarily, as that officer knew, to give evidence on the subject of the forgeries.

Alderman Gibbs: Does any one now charge Mr. Clarke?—Mr. Baldwin (for the prosecution) could not say that he was prepared to lay before the Alderman any evidence affecting Mr. Clarke.

Mr. Teague (the chief clerk of Guildhall Police Court) then, at the desire of Alderman Gibbs, read the evidence of Mr. Edwards, who had sold for Mr. Clarke fifty shares in the Buckinghamshire, &c., Railway Company.

Mr. Huddleston: You had your commission?—Mr. Edwards: Yes, Mr. Robins, my employer, had his commission in the usual course of business. Here the witness expressed an anxious wish to show how he became connected with Mr. Clarke, and then explained the nature and circumstances of their acquaintance. On the 24th of September Mr. Richards, who was known to the house to which witness belonged as a man of respectable character, had a transaction with the house, in which he proved a defaulter, and on the 22nd of September he entered the office with fifty scrip shares in the Buckinghamshire, &c., Railway Company, said he was ashamed to be in debt, and told witness to sell the scrip, and give him the difference between the debt and the property of the sale. Witness did so, and handed a cheque for the difference to him. On the 27th of April, Mr. Richards brought Mr. Clarke, who was not known to witness, to the house, and introduced him as a respectable gentleman, who had fifty scrip shares of the Buckinghamshire, &c., Railway Company, and wished to sell them. Mr. Clarke again called, and brought with him the fifty scrip shares, which witness sold, making out the contract in Mr. Clarke's name, and handing him a cheque for the amount. On the Saturday afterwards, as witness was in the Stock Exchange, the person to whom he had sold Mr. Clarke's shares returned to him as forgeries, and he, of course, procured *bona fide* scrip shares for them, and gave them to that person. The occurrence put witness to considerable expense, and he went to see whether he could find Mr. Richards, and then he and his brother called at the Hall of Commerce, where Mr. Clarke, upon hearing his name called, appeared, and was at once seen to be the person for whom he had sold the scrip shares. Mr. Clarke, upon being told the scrip shares were forgeries, and being asked of whom he had them, at once replied, of Mr. Richards. Under such circumstances, seeing that Mr. Clarke was mixed up with the affair, he considered it to be his duty to give that gentleman into custody.

Mr. Edward Richards was next called to give evidence as regarded Mr. Clarke, although opposition was given to the desire to examine him.

The witness said he was a member of the Hall of Commerce.
Alderman Gibbs: From whom did Mr. Clarke get those fifty shares?—Witness: From me. I wished to give him half the commission as a friend. It would be of advantage to him. Half the commission was 7½d. I gave them to Mr. Clarke to sell to realize for me.

Alderman Gibbs: From whom did you get the forged scrip?—Witness: From Messrs. Faulkner and Fabian.

Mr. Doane: Had you the slightest suspicion that they were forged scrip shares?—Witness: Not the most remote idea of such a thing. The transaction between me and Mr. Clarke and Mr. Edwards was a *bona fide* transaction.

Mr. Doane: And are you ready at any time to make the most full statement in your power relative to the transaction?—Witness: Certainly.

It was here stated, that if the matter had been explained, Mr. Clarke would not have been put to the very disagreeable inconvenience to which he had been subjected.

Mr. Edwards said, that he had acted for his own protection, and he considered himself perfectly justified, under all the circumstances.

The Counsel for Mr. Clarke and Mr. Richards, said it was quite impossible that any dealing could have been more open and exposed to examination than the course pursued by their clients.

The prisoners, Faulkner and Fabian, were then remanded, and Mr. Clarke, Mr. Richards, and several others were requested to attend.

Inspector Waller, into whose custody the prisoners were given at the station-house, produced bank notes and bills which he had received from the two prisoners when they were charged with the forgery by Mr. Solomons. Faulkner had in his pockets when apprehended £1025 in Bank of England notes, and Fabian was in possession of bills coming due to the amount of £5693 12s. 10d. Scrip shares on the Madras Railway Company; the Madras, Nellore, and Arcot Railway Company; and the Ipswich and Bury St. Edmund's Railway Company, of considerable value, were also in the possession of the prisoners.

Lists of all the documents were made out by the direction of Alderman Gibbs.

THE OUTRAGE UPON A FEMALE IN WESTMINSTER.

Since the apprehension of William Luff, alias William Munfield, on the charge of brutally assaulting and throwing a female out of window, the magistrate of WESTMINSTER Police-Office (Mr. Burrell) has, from time to time, inquired after her condition, with a view of ascertaining whether she was in a fit state to give any account of the transaction, and on its being reported to him that she was competent to give a coherent account, although labouring under erysipelas, Mr. Burrell, considering the dangerous nature of this disorder, determined to secure her examination, and on Tuesday, accompanied by Mr. W. Taylor, the chief clerk at the Westminster Police Court, he proceeded to the Westminster Hospital, whither the prisoner was conveyed, in order that her evidence might be taken in his presence.

On the previous investigations, three witnesses spoke to the outrageous violence of the prisoner towards the woman, one of whom found the accused holding her by the hair, and striking her on the head with a poker; and another witness heard him say, with an oath, "I'll throw you out of the window," and immediately afterwards saw the female fall into the yard.

The magistrate and clerk having taken their seats by the witness's bed, with the prisoner in front, the proceedings commenced:—

Jane Pullen, examined by Mr. W. Taylor: I lived with the man who now stands before me, whom I know by the name of William Luff. I have lived with him for about a twelvemonth. About eight o'clock in the evening of this day week, I came home and found the prisoner in the room. He began to quarrel with me for not being at home, and said, "This is fine goings on for a man to come home from work, and no fire." One of the lodgers called me out, and the prisoner persuaded me not to go. I said, if he would not let me go out of the room, I would get out of the window. He said, "you had better sit down," and went to the cupboard and got something to eat. While he was at the cupboard I jumped out of the window—which he had attempted before, but he pulled me back.

Mr. Taylor: Do you recollect anything more?—Witness: Yes, I recollect a young man picking me up in the yard.

Mr. Burrell: Did he not push you from the window?—Witness: No, sir, he did not.

Mr. Taylor: Had you been drinking?—Witness: I had had a little drop to drink.

Mr. Burrell: Was the man sober?—Witness: Yes, quite.

Mr. Taylor: Did the prisoner offer you any violence?—Witness: No, he did not.

Mr. Taylor: Did he not strike you with a poker?—Witness: No, sir, I had the poker in my own hand.

Mr. Burrell: Did you strike him with the poker?—Witness: I was going to, but he took it from me.

Mr. Taylor: Was there any blood about you?—Witness: Yes, a little.

Mr. Taylor: How came blood about you?—Witness: I fell down and struck my nose, which caused it to bleed. There was no other blood on me before I jumped out of the window.

Mr. Burrell: Did he not strike you?—Witness: He only gave me a shove on the side of the head.

Mr. Burrell: Did he not say he would throw you out of the window?—Witness: No, sir, he did not.

Mr. Burrell: Are you quite sure of that?—Witness: I am.

This being the conclusion of her evidence, the prisoner was asked whether he wished to put any question to her. He replied "No," what she had stated was the whole truth.

The female still carries marks of brutal violence; but her condition is much improved, and unless some unfavourable change should take place, her ultimate recovery is not despaired of.

ANOTHER INTRUDER INTO BUCKINGHAM PALACE.—A rough-looking young man, Alexander Reed, who had the appearance of a sailor, was charged on Wednesday, at Bow-street, with being found, under suspicious circumstances, in the garden of Buckingham Palace. Police-constable A 119, who detected the accused, stated that he was on duty in the Royal Garden, and about one o'clock that morning he found him lying asleep on a sofa in a tent there. Upon asking him how he came there, he replied that he had no money to pay for a bed, and that he got over the wall of the Park, thinking he should find a place to have a nap unobserved, and got into the tent without being observed by the sentinel. In answer to a question from Mr. Henry, the prisoner said he went into the garden to have a peep at the Queen, and, being very sleepy, he took the liberty of laying down on her Majesty's sofa. Mr. Henry, not being satisfied with this statement, remanded him.

THE ASSASSINATION IN DRURY-LANE.—In consequence of a medical certificate having been sent to Mr. Henry, stating that one of the witnesses, Louisa Cook, was too ill to attend the Court, Mr. Henry, on Wednesday, sent for the medical attendant, and told Mr. Humphreys that he could not think of sending the boy Graham to trial at the present sessions. Mr. Humphreys said he should not throw any obstacle in the way of any course Mr. Henry might think requisite for the ends of justice. Mr. Henry said that a person had called upon him, and stated he could give important evidence, as he saw the whole transaction; but he (Mr. Henry) should not call him now; he only mentioned it for Mr. Humphreys's information. Mr. Henry remanded Graham for a fortnight.

EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The *Augsburg Gazette* contains a letter from Constantinople, stating that Sir Stratford Canning and Baron de Bourqueney had called for the dismissal of Selim Pacha, on account of his having inflicted torture upon the Christians of Albania; and it adds that the Armenian patriarch who had launched an anathema against such of his flock as had attended the sermons of foreign missionaries, had received from the Emperor of Russia, by way of mark of approbation, a magnificent diamond cross.

The Brighton and Chichester railroad will be opened in its whole extent on Monday, the 25th instant, the anniversary of her Majesty's birthday. The contractors say they shall drive an engine through it on Monday next.

A letter from Vienna states that the marriage between the Prince Royal of Wurtemberg and the Grand Duchess of Russia will be solemnized at St. Petersburg on the 6th of July, the eve of the anniversary of the birth of the Empress. The writer adds that it is considered as certain that the Emperor will meet the Empress at Ratisbon.

We have advices from Tahiti up to the end of December; the face of things has not changed. The natives entrenched in their camps remained in a passive state of hostility, and Pomaré, who is with her husband at Raiatea, refused all intercourse with the French. A report was abroad that France was inclined to relinquish the Protectorate over the islands of Raiatea, Huahine, and Borabora, which, with some others, were to be left to the natives, on condition that they were not to be put under the protection of any other power. The English and French Admirals had not come to an agreement on the Pritchard indemnity, and thus matters stood.

A rumour is afloat to the effect that there is to be an immediate consolidation of the Board of Excise and the Board of Stamps and Taxes, so as to leave only one revenue board for customs or foreign duties, and one for inland duties. It is even said that Sir R. Peel intends to make this arrangement part of his forthcoming budget.

The *Journal de l'Yonne* announces that on Thursday morning (last week), the Count de la Bourdonnaye, on getting out of his bed to dress himself, was struck with apoplexy, and died almost instantaneously.

It is said that the Emperor of Russia has advised the King of Naples to oppose the marriage of Count Trapani with Queen Isabella II. On the 16th ultimo the Pope held a consistorium at Rome, at which different Bishops were consecrated. The Holy Father is said to have spoken in very bitter terms of the conduct of the French clergy during the late insurrection in Poland, and it is probable he will address an evangelical letter to the French Bishops.

According to letters from Constantinople, another conspiracy, having for its object the instigation of the inhabitants of Thessaly to revolt, and originating with the philanthropic societies of Greece, has just been detected on the Greek frontier. Singular as it may seem, this plot was announced to the Porte by the Russian Minister.

Letters from Vienna of the 3rd instant, state that the Arch-Duke John had been ordered by the Emperor to proceed to Venice, in order to compliment the Empress of Russia, and accompany her to Salzburg. Grand fêtes were being prepared for her Imperial Majesty at Venice.

The States of the Grand Duchy of Baden were re-opened on the 4th, with all the usual ceremonies; the Minister of the Interior, as Commissioner of the Grand Duke, delivered the speech in the name of his Highness, which directs the attention of the Chamber particularly to the question of railroads.

A letter from Marseilles, after announcing that the King of Naples had, on Good Friday, granted pardons to the companions of the unfortunate Bandiera, and that they had arrived at Marseilles, mentions a report that others of the political convicts in the affair of Calabria had obtained commutations of their sentences, and that some of them had been set at liberty.

Miss Hugina Leslie, the last representative of the no less ancient than distinguished house of Leslie of Lindores, died at Capar, on Wednesday (last week), at the advanced age of one hundred years, five weeks, and three days, having been born on March 15, 1746. In the rebellion of '45 her father took a very prominent part in the army of the Royalists under William, Duke of Cumberland, and long survived that eventful period.

A letter from Constantinople, dated April 27th, says—"Admiral Sir William Parker, since his arrival in her Majesty's ship *Virago*, on the 20th inst., has been engaged in a daily succession of fêtes and dinners. On the 23rd, which was St. George's Day, all the English residents of Constantinople were invited to dine with him at the ambassadorial residence. On the 24th he was entertained by Reschid Pacha, and on the 25th he dined with the Turkish Ministers and the whole corps diplomatique at the British embassy. On the same day he and his suite were presented to the Sultan by Sir Stratford Canning."

The *Augsburg Gazette*, in a letter from Lemberg, April 30, states that much agitation still prevailed in that part of the country. Many of the peasants refused to perform the duties they are bound to do for their landlords, and even go so far as to openly declare that the soil ought to be shared amongst all the inhabitants. Much distress was experienced for want of food. The authorities were doing all in their power to procure a supply of provisions, but their task was a most difficult one.

The Council of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, has fixed the period of the next meeting to be held at Southampton, for the week commencing Thursday, 10th September. The President, appointed at the last meeting at Cambridge, is Sir Roderick Impey Murchison.

Intelligence from the frontiers of Servia, dated April 25, announces that Prince Alexander had left Belgrade for Ratschek, where the Sultan was expected to arrive on the 10th of May. The Prince was accompanied by Petronich and the Senator Garaschane, and intended to make presents to the Sultan to the value of upwards of 100,000 ducats. The Princes of Moldavia and Wallachia were also to offer magnificent presents to his Highness.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes intelligence from Madagascar, down to the 7th of February last. The Hovas, encouraged by impunity, continued to maintain in force the edict of Queen Ranavalala Manjaka, which had obliged the English and French to send an expedition to Tamatave. Several vessels engaged by the Governor of Bourbon for the purpose of procuring provisions from Madagascar had been refused admission into Tamatave. The natives, congregated in numbers on the beach, threatened to fire on the crews, and prevented them from landing. An English vessel, which arrived there at the same time, was also denied admission, and compelled to put to sea.

The session of the two Chambers of the Netherlands was closed on the 11th inst., by the Minister of the Interior in the name of the King. The review of the affairs of the kingdom, both external and internal, was of a satisfactory nature.

Letters from Neisse, in Prussian Silesia, dated May 2, state that the Chief Tyssowski had succeeded in making his escape, as likewise seven insurgent officers, amongst whom was Alexis Starski, a brother of the general of that name. Three of them left behind their red sashes, and they were even seen to set off in a coach. On the 3rd inst. seven of the insurgents were to be transported to Cracow, to appear before the military commission.

On the 1st instant the church of St. Philip Neri, at Barcelona, was inaugurated with a grand mass in music. It replaces an ancient chapel of St. Louis in the church of the Jesuits, specially appropriated in early days to the use of the French residents at Barcelona.

In the sitting of the Canadian Parliament of the 17th ult., on a division upon the Free Trade Corn Bill, sent out by Sir Robert Peel, the Government was defeated by a majority of seven.

A Trieste letter of the 30th ult. states, from Romelia, that the Turks have attacked the Catholics of that country, torn them from their houses, and dragged them through the streets, because they would not abjure their religion. The Greeks were obliged to interfere to save the victims of fanaticism from being massacred. From this time the inveteracy between the Turks and Christians had become so great, that it had been found necessary to send detachments of troops to keep peace between them. According to accounts from Damascus, dated March 31, the Catholic Melchites have also suffered severely from the Turks, who are encouraged by the authorities, and even by the Pacha himself.

The French Government having charged the chief engineer of the department of the Rhône to assemble a commission, and proceed to an inquiry into the causes of the accident which happened on March 1, on the St. Etienne and Lyons railroad, the engineer, who acted as president, has transmitted a report, from which it appears that the engine which broke down had been long in use—that the rails to a considerable extent were in a bad condition—that the curves were too sharp—and that the diligences were upon the old structure, without springs, and consequently unfit to sustain shocks.

It is stated from Turin, that the Austrian Government had taken offence at some liberal measures lately adopted by the King of Sardinia, and addressed several angry notes to his Majesty. An impression prevails that the Liberals of Italy looked to King Charles Albert for support, notwithstanding the former defeat of their revolutionary views by the secession of the same Sovereign from "the cause."

The *Berlin Zeitung* contains a correspondence from Posen, under date May 4th, in which it is stated that a collision between a squadron of Hussars and the populace had taken place at Kosten, and that many of the latter (report says eighteen) had been severely wounded. It appears that the inhabitants of the town had been informed that the head clergyman was to be arrested on political grounds, and that they had assembled in a tumultuous manner in order to prevent his removal. The *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* also mentions the occurrence, but does not state that any persons were wounded.

A GLITTERING DELUSION.

To the Editor of the "Times."

Sir—About a twelvemonth ago, or less, a certain weekly paper issued a prospectus, inviting attention to a plan by which some thousands of pounds were annually to be obtained for the small outlay of £1 6s. per annum—the distribution of the money pendent on the prizes and numbers of the Art-Union. That institution disapproved of this lottery; and I think too much praise cannot be given to it for preventing a more extensive system of gambling than must even necessarily accompany all societies of the like kind. They announced, about six weeks since, that they should draw their prizes in such a way as to baffle the attempts of the newspaper in question. That journal, on the following Saturday, announced that, whatever the Art-Union might do, they would adhere to the terms of their advertisement; and that, no matter how the Art-Union drew its prizes, their distribution should be regulated by it. The Art-Union, I understand, drew by names, and not by numbers, thus effectively disconcerting this thousand pound scheme. The advertisements respecting it are now withdrawn, the boards at the office are taken down, and all has resumed its wonted quiet. Not a word is now said of the thousands of pounds annually: the victims of the "do," who have subscribed in the hopes of becoming a thousand pounds richer, have now only to lament with

ONE WHO DID NOT GET £1000.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

We resume this subject from last week.

Our introductory remarks have indicated the radical errors of the Continental Schools of Art. The defects of detail and execution follow so immediately from these fundamental mistakes, that it is hardly worth while to trace their growth step by step, or to point them out one by one.

The English School—if we may use the expression when there is no school, but many skillful mannerists and a crowd of imitators—has, with few exceptions, avoided the vain attempt at resuscitating dead forms. But, in revenge, it has in too many cases fallen into the equally fatal error of regarding imitation as one of the great, if not the great end of art. The obvious straining towards this end on the part of the artist has led to an exaggerated value of a successful attainment of it on the part of the spectator.

We find a majority of the pictures in an English Exhibition challenging admiration on the score of dexterous representation of draperies, clothes, furniture, and what painters call "still life"—actors' "properties;" and we find a majority of Exhibition-hunters confining their praise to the skill displayed in these points, and learnedly minute in finding out and condemning whatever is "unlike nature." They are not aware that this, in one sense, is the highest praise that can be bestowed upon a picture.

The object of imitation is to deceive. The pleasure it produces arises from our fancying for a moment the thing to be that which we know it is not.

To produce this, is the intention of a wax-work; and it is only by placing wax-works and pictures on a level, that we can admit "imitation" to be a proper end of art.

Besides sinning in their mistaken efforts at literal imitation of textures and surfaces, our artists show a sad lack of cultivation in their choice of subjects; and, when not in the choice, in the treatment of them. This weakness arises from the preceding error. If imitation be the artist's aim, the choice of subject is a matter of no importance. Nay, as only the trivial can be imitated, subjects abounding in trivialities are those which, according to this theory of art, most naturally suggest themselves to the artist.

It may be argued against our view, that the Dutch and Flemish pictures fetch the highest prices, and have the places of honour in collections public and private. This is true, but does not affect the argument. There is a vulgarity of appreciation which seeks for kindred vulgarity of conception, and such appreciation is the most common. George IV. was the appropriate fosterer of the taste for Dutch pictures. We regret to think that he has such imitators as Sir Robert Peel. The Hope Collection illustrates the essentially Dutch nature of its collectors, as much as the pictures do the national taste, mind, and manners of the painters. We must not, however, dwell longer upon generals.

We have already intimated that the present Exhibition is above the average of excellence. The works of the Academicians naturally claim earliest notice.

Landseer, in popular appreciation, stands highest of present English painters. He has no living rival, few dead ones. Sydes has more motion and rugged life, but has not given the inner nature of the brute as Landseer was the first to do. He has four pictures this year; all remarkable for his peculiar mastery of hand in giving texture, his clean and pleasing colour, and his well-defined unmistakable-ness of intention, when there is any intention, in the work.

His "Time of Peace" is a scene on the Downs near Ramsgate. It is a bright summer day: below the cliff the blue sea is rippling cheerfully under the warm wind; a little family are amusing themselves at Cat's Cradle, surrounded by sheep. Rusty howitzers lie at intervals along the cliff, dismounted from their carriages. Round one of them, in the foreground, the sheep are gathered—a lamb nibbling the fresh sweet grass from the very muzzle of the gun. Here is a sentiment which elevates the picture above the literal class; yet the overpowering skillfulness of the handling, the wonderful way in which the short curly wool of the lamb is distinguished from the fleece of the sheep, the painting of the grass, and the rusty cannon, almost quenches the sentiment, or at least does much to overlay it. The companion picture, "Time of War," is redeemed from literalness by even finer and more delicate touches of fancy, when we might have looked for the higher and broader play of imagination. Two chargers, a white and a black one, with their dead riders, are lying in a confused heap among the ruins of a burning cottage. The head only of the white horse is visible—the eye glazed, the nostril stiffened in death. The black horse is mortally wounded, rolling his haunches in an impotent effort to rise, and the breath projected from his nostrils in the terror and struggle. The touch of fancy is in the broken flower-pots, with the rose and geranium still fresh and sweet, and living amidst the sooty smoke and ruin. They tell of peacefulness and innocence, and woman's hands; and in the train of associations which they give rise to, enforce a contrast, and carry away the mind to the quiet and happier time. It is in such a work as this that we recognise a true conception of the purpose of art. This is entirely wanting in the picture called "Refreshment"—a white horse munching carrots, two resting dogs, and a pair of peasants watching all. Perhaps, however, the sentiment of contented enjoyment which breathes from the picture, may elevate it into the true region of art. His "Stag at Bay" is a fine picture, conveying boldly and vigorously the notion of animal defiance and suffering. One dog is gored, and floating, helpless, on his back, in the lake, when the deer has been brought to bay. The other, alarmed at his comrade's fate, is baying with his tail between his legs. A black rain squall passing over the sky, harmoniously completes a work which must rank among the highest of its class, though that class be not the highest.

After Landseer—and inferior to him in manual skill, but superior in refinement and character—comes Leslie. His "Reading the Will" has been pronounced equal to Hogarth, and we are not disposed to dispute the assertion. The heads are full of varied and genuine expression. The maid, with a face of half-puzzled sympathy, behind her fainting mistress—the scornful pug-nosed spinster, who is leaving the room—the girl, with real concern in her heavy eyes and saddened lip, at the window—the bluff old commodore—the inane heir—the congratulatory lawyer, clergyman, and doctor—and the grinning gap-toothed steward, are all heads which Hogarth might have been proud of. Some chalkiness and hardness in the colouring and manipulation are slight drawbacks to these high merits. In his "Mother and Child" there is a beautiful rendering of the maternal feeling. The young mother is putting her rosy little darling to bed, and is giving him one of those nuzzling, playful, loving mother's kisses, while the little fellow spreads his toes, and stretches his arms, and rolls happily about on her knee. It is a most tender and beautiful picture, and every way worthy of the highest praise. His "Bobadil," a portrait of Mr. Charles Dickens, has more of his thinness and chalkiness of colour; but the face of Cob's wife, at the door, is full of unforced and natural character, which lifts the picture above the mere portrait class, as this is now-a-days degraded by the practice of our painters.

Maclise has one large work, "The Ordeal by Touch," a fine subject, and a picture full of this painter's marked powers, and his equally marked defects. As to expression, it has high merits, though, in most cases, this is marred by a certain melodramatic exaggeration. The centre of the group is occupied with the rigid corpse. The murderer, with averted head, brings himself with an effort to touch the breast, from which a blood-gout is slowly welling, while the mother vehemently denounces him. This latter figure is one of great power, but still recalls the theatre, and a certain well-known tragic actress. A group on the spectator's right hand, apparently an accomplice and member of the murderer's family, is very well conceived. The young mother, horror-stricken and pale, is turning her child's head to her bosom, away from the evidence of his father's guilt. An unconcerned spectator, behind the murderer, with a face of simple, stupid curiosity, is remarkable for truth. The jury are, it seemed to us, purely theatrical in arrangement and character. As to the mechanical part of the work it is metallic throughout—hair and armour are rendered by the same means, and marked by the same play of light, and there is no recession whatever in the picture. In this respect it might be a production of the Byzantine school.

(To be Continued.)

A GOSSIP ABOUT THE WATER-COLOUR SOCIETIES.

(Continued from page 312.)

THE NEW SOCIETY.

Corbould is the prettiest of Water-Colour figure painters. Witness his charming Masquerade Cottage Girl, "on sale." There is more of dainty drawing-room consciousness than rustic simplicity in the air with which she balances the basket on her delicate head, and plants her pretty foot; but the grace, or, if you will have it, "prettiness," cannot be denied. Why, not content

F I N E A R T S .

with triumphing in this low-lying, but prettily-flowered field, will Mr. Corbould venture into the awful mountain range of the high Heric, Historic, Religious, or whatever name belongs to the domain in which rule Raphael and the Italians? The "Christ Restoring the Daughter of Jairus" is perfect in manipulation—clean to an abomination. The dead child has none of the emaciation of lingering illness—no damps of the death-chill on limb or brow. She is a trim, plump, well-conditioned maiden—much such a one as his "Egg-seller" would be out of her petticoats. The Christ has no sick or soiled upon him; no dust upon his lowly feet, no stamp of sorrow or suffering on his smooth face. His hair is fresh from brush and comb, and by no means innocent of Macassar: so with everything. The qualities which would be meritorious in an humble class of pictures, are utterly and unqualifiedly abominable in the treatment of grave and elevated themes, which the artist seems to take a pleasure in selecting. His "Entrance of the Boy King" is less objectionable, though, even here, everything wears an air of theatrical pageantry. Still, this suits the subject; and, by a lavish use of gum and body colour, a rich and imposing effect is attained in the foreground. In one place we saw a dash of colour fixed on the glass, instead of the paper underneath—a trick, and a peculiarly unworthy one, because glass and picture are not one and indivisible.

We could not have believed that Penley could have condescended to anything so life-like and unpretending as "The Head of a Country Girl," a masterpiece of colour and fidelity to nature, snatched from any cottage door in Kent or Suffolk, and transferred to paper before the wonderment has quite left her round eyes, or the flush faded from her apple-cheek. We like the little doings of the great men best. We should prefer one little bit of H. Warren, like (277) "On Wimbledon Common," a simple transcript of green heath-land, with a tree or two breaking the level, to all the "Dried-up Wells" and "Dying Camels" and "Desert Scenes," he paints, however cleverly, without having seen them.

Kearney comes out with a certain sober solidity of colour, and an intention in his heads, which promise well. His "Noncontent" is a real Ironside; his Bible on one side counterpoising his standing tuck on the other. His "Cromwell and Wildrake" has the same merits of meaning in the faces, and careful modelling, with a sobriety of tone which subordinates the background and accessories as they ought to be subordinated.

D'Egville follows Varley with a bold hand, and with a success which induces regret that he should not follow nature instead.

Hardwicke has several forest scenes from nature, and looking like it—coarse, but real, and telling of the open air—wholesome pictures, which make one breathe freely as one looks at them; and Youngman has a "View on the Tees," remarkable for its air and the local truth of colour.

But how comes it we have omitted Topham all this while? His "Mavourneen" is the gem of the exhibition; a young Irish mother watching her baby, and the grandmother cowering by her side, in all the picturesque equal of a Galway cabin, but hallowed and heightened by a sentiment the more deep and tender for its homeliness. This is a drawing which will touch many hearts and awaken womanly sympathies towards poor Ireland. We are sorry it is the only picture of this charming artist, who knows his art, and what his art can do, so well.

Jutsum has some green and sunny landscapes; and Dodgson, a number of those charming little combinations of wood and architecture, which he composes with such a fine feeling for tone and line. His "Avenue" has very high merit; it stretches along cool, and calm, and stately. And his old-world unin-

habited castle (340), with its gardens weed-grown and tangled, and its night-lingale-haunted brakes, is a work of real and chastened imagination.

Lindsay, also, has several small landscapes, of harmonious and agreeable colour.

G. Howse, however, may share the landscape honours of the New Society with Duncan. His "Frankfort-on-the-Maine" is a most elaborate river view, with a mass of shipping grouped skilfully, and the old tower of the Cathedral coming out in grey and airy tones above the houses of the quay. His "Abbeville" is one of those picturesque squares of timbered houses which seem to have been built for artists to copy; and he has half-a-dozen rich little blottings of still-life and architecture, which are equally facile and agreeable.

Boys has several large and elaborate views, chiefly in France—one especially of the Seine and the Quays of Paris—rather cold in tone, but very skilful in the management of the perspective.



EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—"IRISH COURTSHIP."—BY ALFRED FRUPP.

Callow's seas are hard and formal; his ships are stuck on the top of waves like haycocks, and give up the attempt to float in despair of success with such ridgy unyielding water.

Chase deserves notice for his "Interior of the Hall of Justice at Bruges," though it wants the solidity and daylight of Nash's view of the same room.

We have engraved Jenkins's fine picture, "Le Récit d'Une Grande Bataille," attached to which in the catalogue are the following lines from one of Béranger's songs:—

"Puissance et gloire
Cris de Victoire
Rien n'étouffait voix de mon pays.
De tout quitter mon cœur me prio
Je reviens pauvre, mais constant."

The accompanying illustration is from the Old Water-Colour Society—Alfred Frupp's "Irish Courtship," noticed in our "Gossip" of last week. We have appended a few characteristic lines:—

IRISH COURTSHIP.

DERMOT.

Arrah! Kathleen ashore! 'tis my own heart is breaking,
From the cruel disdain which now laughs in your eyes;
Sure, 'tis a full week since the drink I'm forsaking,
And I join in no scrimmages now with the boys.
Then turn round, my darling! your coldness will wither
The heart-flow'rs I tenderly cherish for you—
I have taken the pledge, dear! Ah! Kathleen, look hither!
This medal proves Dermot is sober and true.

KATHLEEN.

Ah! thin, Dermot, I'm glad that you've taken to water;
'Twill cool all the flames that your love fans for me—
Perhaps you mistake me for Mahony's daughter,
You danced with all day, at the fair of Tralee;
While there sat poor me, like Ste. Charity's statue.
With two little children I danced on my knee;
Don't talk to me, Dermot, about Father Mathew—
Go! marry Miss Mahony; I will be free.

DERMOT.

Then, here—take this medal! My lone heart is sinking;
The hopes that I lived on are lost in despair;
No comfort now left to poor Dermot, but drinking—
No joy but the wild one—a fight at the fair.

KATHLEEN.

Oh! say not so, Dermot, you make my breast flutter
With fear; but you'll ne'er see that craythure again?

DERMOT.

Your smile to my heart is a hot knife through butter!
To you, dear, for ever I'll constant remain.

L'ENVOI.

E'en so he did: achievement rare!
And Erin seldom hail'd a pair
So fond, through every scene of life,
As Dermot and his faithful wife.
Joy, when it came, was doubly joy;
And sorrow's self held mirth's alloy.
Oh! thus may every pair be seen,
Happy as Dermot and Kathleen!



EXHIBITION OF THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—"LE RECIT D'UNE GRANDE BATAILLE."—BY JOS. J. JENKINS.

CHURCH FOR THE SEAMEN OF THE PORT OF LONDON.

On Monday, the foundation-stone of a Church expressly for the accommodation of the Seamen of the Port of London, was laid by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, in the presence of a large and distinguished assemblage of ladies, noblemen, and gentlemen, subscribers to this new spiritual provision for our seamen. The site has been judiciously chosen, in Dock-street, very near the London and St. Katherine's Docks, the Sailors' Home, and the Seamen's Asylum.

The preparations for the ceremony were well planned. From the walls of the new Church, which have already been raised to the height of about 15 feet, a blue and white canvass awning was stretched and carried up to a lofty ridge, from which the Union Jack floated outside. On a platform, erected in the centre of the area, and covered with Turkey carpeting, three chairs were placed, one a chair of state for the Prince; that on the one side for the Bishop of London, and that on the other for the Lord Mayor. Immediately to their right, over an opening in the floor, was suspended from pulleys the foundation-stone, which, being lowered by the ropes attached, fitted to one of corresponding dimensions, and enclosed a bottle containing the plan of the building and the inscription. The whole of the remaining space was occupied by crimson-covered seats in ascending rows, which were filled by ladies and gentlemen. The Clergy, who attended in considerable numbers, occupied three benches immediately behind the Prince; the seats in front were occupied by the Lords of the Admiralty, the Committee, and their ladies. The upper and back benches were occupied by seamen and their apprentices, who acted as an excellent choir.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by the Marquis of Abercorn, arrived on the ground in Dock-street, at about a quarter to three o'clock, and shortly after was surrounded by the following official and distinguished personages:—Lords Commissioners and officers of the Admiralty, Earl of Ellenborough, Vice Admiral Sir W. H. Gage, Rear Admiral Bowles, Captain W. A. Baillie Hamilton, the Lord Mayor, Admiral Lord Radstock, Admiral Sir Charles Malcolm, Admiral the Earl of Cadogan, Admiral Sir R. W. Otway, Admiral Sir George Mundy; Captains, Royal Navy, George Hope, Codrington, Bazalgette, Pierce; Alderman Sir Claudius Hunter, Sir John Pelly (of the Trinity Board); and the following reverend gentlemen—the Bishop of London, Mr. Chapness (rector of the parish), C. I. Smith, chaplain of the floating chapel, &c.

Previous to the interesting ceremony taking place, the Prince, accompanied by the Marquis of Abercorn, the Bishop of London, the Lords of the Admiralty, Capt. Pierce, secretary to the institution, H. Labouchere, Esq., treasurer, &c., proceeded to the Sailors' Home, immediately at the back of the new building, and, after going through that establishment, the Prince expressed himself highly gratified with his visit, and returned to the site of the Church, where, as on his first arrival, his Royal Highness was warmly cheered.

The ceremony was then commenced by the Treasurer, Mr. Labouchere, reading the following address:—"May it please your Royal Highness,—On behalf of the Directors of the Church for Seamen and myself I beg to express our most grateful thanks to your Royal Highness for your kindness in coming among us this day, to lay the foundation-stone of the first Church which has ever been erected in this metropolis for the use of seamen, all the sittings in which, 800 in number, are to be perfectly free. I cannot refrain from availing myself of the present opportunity, also, to express our most grateful thanks to her Majesty, for her liberal support in favour of this national undertaking; and I sincerely trust that the countenance it has received both from her Majesty and yourself will induce others to come forward, and supply the remaining funds necessary to the completion of the Church."

A band of choristers, placed in one of the galleries, then sang an appropriate hymn, followed by the reading of the 84th psalm, the Lord's Prayer, and the dedication.

All things being ready, the stone was lowered into its place, and his Royal Highness, adjusting it, repeated the following:—"We place this foundation-stone in faith and hope to the glory of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." The usual number of coins had been previously deposited in a cavity prepared for them, and the following inscription was then read aloud by the Architect:—

This Foundation-stone of the Church for Seamen of the port of London was laid on Monday, 11th day of May, 1846, in the eighth year of the reign of her Majesty Queen Victoria, by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, K.G., her Majesty's Consort; the Right Hon. and Right Rev. Charles James Bishop of London, John Labouchere, Esq., Treasurer; Henry Roberts, F.S.A., Architect; William Cubitt and Co., Builders.

The choristers then chanted the 122nd Psalm—"I was glad when they said unto me, we will go into the house of the Lord;" the Bishop offered three prayers, and then dismissed the people with the Apostle's benediction.



CHURCH FOR SEAMEN OF THE PORT OF LONDON, DOCK-STREET.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert, who looked remarkably well, was dressed in plain clothes, and wore the blue riband with the star of the Order of the Garter. The Marquis of Abercorn also wore his star and riband.

Before leaving, his Royal Highness desired that three cheers should be given for the success of the work; which were given by the sailors, and three more for her Majesty and the Prince. His Royal Highness on re-entering his carriage, was most enthusiastically cheered by the assembled crowds outside the building. A liberal collection was made at the Church door in aid of the building fund, which, we understand, is still between £2,000 and £3,000 short of the estimated sum required—£9,000.

The style of the architecture of the new Church is early English; the west front, with the tower and spire, will be faced with stone.

The limited extent of ground apportioned to this Church, and the probable erection of a lofty building on either side, have influenced its arrangement, especially with a view to securing an adequate portion of light, for which purpose a clerestory is adopted, to be supported by octagonal piers of Carline-nose stone, resembling much in effect Purbeck marble.

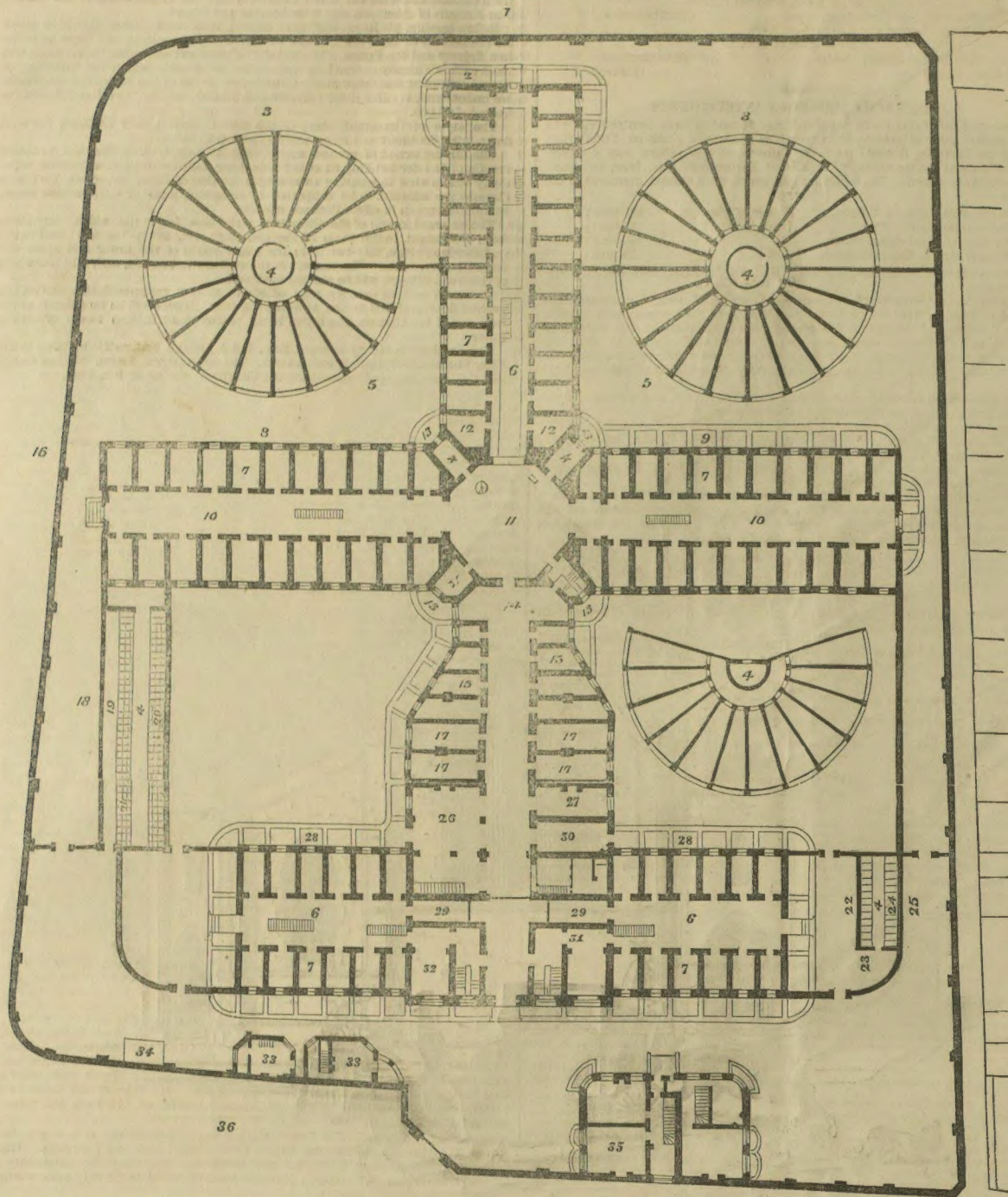
The external length of the Church is sixty-nine feet; the width, fifty-three feet; the height, to the plate of the clerestory roof, thirty-five feet; and to the under-side of ridge, fifty-two feet; the entire height of the tower and spire will be one hundred feet. The timbers of the roof are to be open, and, with the whole of the wood-fittings, will be stained dark oak.

The seats will be entirely free, of open benches, accommodating 600 on the ground-floor, and 200 in the two side galleries. There will be no gallery at the west end of the Church, the organ being placed in a triforium recess within the tower.

The architect is Henry Roberts, Esq., F.S.A., whose first public building in the City, Fishmongers' Hall, is well known. The contractors, Messrs. William Cubitt and Co., have engaged to complete the Church by the 1st March, 1847.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE SEAMEN'S CHURCH, ON MONDAY LAST.



GROUND PLAN OF THE MIDDLESEX HOUSE OF DETENTION.

THE MIDDLESEX HOUSE OF DETENTION.

We are now enabled to present to our readers the Ground-plan of the Middlesex House of Detention, the laying the foundation-stone of which was detailed in our Journal of last week. By reference to the plan of the model prison at Pentonville, engraved in No. 37 of our Journal, and comparing it with the annexed plan, the reader will perceive the plan of the House of Detention to be modified in some of its details, from the "Separate System" pursued at Pentonville.

REFERENCES TO THE ENGRAVING.

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|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Corporation Row. | 4. Officers |
| 2. Wing for Males. | 5. Exercising yard for Juveniles. |
| 3. Exercising yard for Males. | 6. Corridor. |

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|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 7. Cells. | 22. Visiting Places. |
| 8. Wing for Males. | 23. Prisoners. |
| 9. Wing for Juveniles. | 24. Friends. |
| 10. Corridor. | 25. Female Prisoners. |
| 11. Central Hall. | 26. Officers' Mess. |
| 12. Store. | 27. Governor's Office. |
| 13. Area. | 28. Wing for Females. |
| 14. Hall. | 29. Passage to Females' Wing. |
| 15. Reception Cells. | 30. Surgeon's Room. |
| 16. Bridewell Walk. | 31. Clerk's Office. |
| 17. Solicitors' Rooms. | 32. Reception Room for Females. |
| 18. Visiting Places. | 33. Lodge. |
| 19. Passage for Friends. | 34. Dead House. |
| 20. Male Prisoners. | 35. Governor's Residence. |
| 21. Friends. | 36. Short's Buildings. |

MUSIC.

CONCERT OF ANCIENT MUSIC.

Earl Howe was the Director of the Sixth Scheme, and although it contained only one novelty, it was interesting and judicious. The Queen Dowager, the Archbishop of York, and a very fashionable assemblage, attended Monday's rehearsal, and at Wednesday's performance there were present Prince Albert, Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar, the Duchess of Kent, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, the Duke of Wellington, Archbishop of Armagh, the Bishops of London and Oxford, Earl and Countess Howe, Earl and Countess Cawdor, Earl and Countess of Powis, Earl of Devon, the Speaker of the House of Commons, Lord Templeton, Sirs W. Curtis, A. Barnard, J. Campbell, T. Phillips, S. Glynn, Miss Burdett Coutts, &c. Handel's "Coronation Anthem" opened the concert, and, by the same master-mind, there were choruses from the "Messiah," and "Solomon," and his "Berenice" overture. A chorus from Beethoven's first mass in C, "Glory to God," the English words by Mr. Gardiner, of Leicester, who deserves the credit of having first introduced Beethoven's works into this country, for which act of high intelligence he was declared by the professors of those days to be a madman! A Motett, by Zanotti, "Veni Sanctus Spiritus," was a puerile work, the conclusion was evidently borrowed from Locke's music in "Macbeth."

Stevens' lovely Glee, "Ye spotted snakes," was nicely sung by Madame Caradori Allan, Messrs. Hawkins, Lockey, and Machin. The lady singer's delicate and finished style and excellent enunciation were the admiration of the room. Greatorex's arrangement of Dr. Clarke's Melody, "Bird of the wilderness," was given by Miss Bassano, Hawkins, Lockey, and Machin. The leading item of this programme was Pischek's wonderful interpretation of Gluck's scene, from "Iphigenia in Tauride"—the celebrated *Orestes* air. For varied and impassioned declamation, this was a truly magnificent display of vocal genius. He also sang Himmel's Prayer, "Vater, ich rufe dich," most impressively, and with Caradori the well-known Duet from Paer's "Agnese."

Herr Hoelzel, from Vienna, gave, in German, Haydn's song from "The Seasons," "With joy the impatient husbandman," in which is the skillful under-current of the movement; "The Surprise," correctly, but without style and feeling. Madlle. Rummel, in Mozart's air from the "Seraglio," "Lontan da quel," displayed an extraordinary compass of voice, singing up to D in alt, but the effect was not agreeable. Mozart must have written this air for his "Queen of Night" soprano, who went up to F. Miss Bassano, who was a Royal Academy pupil, made a very favourable impression in Mozart's "Non più di fiori." She has been studying and acting in Italy, and has acquired energy in her style. She bids fair to occupy a high position here. Her voice is a beautiful mezzo-soprano, and she has considerable powers of execution. The Archbishop of York directs next Wednesday's concert, on behalf of the King of Hanover.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

THE HULLAN TESTIMONIAL FUND.—The Fourth Choral Meeting at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday night, was well attended. The performance was much as usual; sometimes good, more often unsteady, and ever and anon the singers were all abroad. The simplest works fared best; and it is a pity that complicated pieces should be selected, only to prove, apparently, that the system of Wilhelm can never make finished vocalists.

VOCAL CONCERTS.—The glee-singing at the Second Scheme was admirable. Miss Hawes's execution of the counter-tenor part in Calcott's "Queen of the Valley" was perfection itself. Stafford Smith's "Blest Pair of Siens," one of the most difficult glees ever written, was smoothly done by Miss Birch, Miss R. Dickson, Miss Hawes, Mr. Hobbs, and Mr. H. Phillips. Webbe's glee, "Discord, Dire Sister;" W. Knyvett's arrangement of Reeve's melody, "The Rose of the Valley;" Gluck's solo, quintet, and chorus, "Invano alcun desir;" and Miss Hawes's charming singing of Arne's "Water parted from the Sea," were encored. Purcell's "Frost Scene," from "King Arthur," required orchestral accompaniments. Arne's arrangement of *Madame's* song in "Artaxerxes," "If o'er the cruel tyrant, Love," was well interpreted by Miss Birch, Miss Hawes, Mr. Hobbs, and Mr. Bradbury; as also Wilby's madrigal, "Sweet honey-sucking Bees," by the full choir. Steven's glee, "It was a Lover and his Lass,"

Handel's choros, "The Many rend the Skies;" Haydn's song, "O Tuneful Voice," sung by Mr. Hobbs; and Handel's air, "He layeth the Beams," given by Mr. Phillips, were included in this judicious selection.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF FEMALE MUSICIANS.—This admirable institution was established in 1839, through the active exertions of Miss Masson. The Annual Concert was well patronized. All the performers gave their gratuitous services; and we are happy to record the names of Sivori, Cioffi, the great trombone player; Pischek, Hoelzel, F. Lablache, Misses Bassano, Duval, Ley, Rainforth, Cubitt, Lincoln; Mrs. A. Toulmin, Mrs. A. Shaw, Mrs. W. H. Seguin, Miss Steele, Mrs. Severn; Mr. Rafter, Mr. Seguin, Mr. Kench, Mr. Howe, &c. Mr. Lucas conducted, and Mr. T. Cooke led the band, in which were Howell, Harper and sons, Platt, Anderson, Willy, Card, Phillips, Patey, Paton, G. Cooke, Smithies, Baumann, &c., &c.

MISS STEELE.—This clever and much respected vocalist gave her Annual Concert on Monday night, which was well attended. Madlle. Horrenberger played a pianoforte caprice by Dohler very creditably. Sivori and Madame Dulcken performed a duo on violin and piano with *éclat*. The vocalists were Madame F. Lablache, Madame Pasini, Misses Birch, Steele, Williams, Rainforth; Messrs. Boddia, Machin, Lockey, Calkin, and Signor F. Lablache. There was a band led by Mr. Cooke, and Messrs. Dorrell, Lavenu, and Brinley Richards officiated as accompanists.

THE BEETHOVEN QUARTET SOCIETY.—No. 5 of Op. 18, No. 8 Op. 59, and Op. 132 (posthumous), were executed at the fifth meeting on Monday, by Sivori, Sainston, Hill, and Rousselot. The quartets of Beethoven having now been gone through, the Haydn and Mozart gems will be given at the future concerts, but carrying out the principle of a complete illustration of quartet composition, one by Beethoven will be inserted as a climax at the close of each programme.

MR. LOVER.—This popular illustrator of Irish life and manners commenced his season in London at the Princess's Room, on Monday last, and was heartily greeted in a new entertainment called "The Queen's Visit to Ireland;" not our most gracious Majesty, as the title indicated, but Queen Mab. Lover's stories and jokes were inexhaustible in fancy, feeling, and fun; and his singing, although he has no voice, is full of character and expression.

MR. WILSON'S SCOTTISH SONGS.—These entertainments continue to be well patronized, at the Music Hall, in Store-street.

THE CHORAL HARMONISTS had their seventh Concert on Monday last, but we were unable to be present. Yesterday (Friday) morning that much respected and intellectual vocalist, Madame Caradori Allan gave her annual Concert, at the Hanover-square Rooms. We are compelled, from want of space, to omit our notice, as also of the performance of Haydn's "Creation," last night, at Exeter Hall; and of Mr. Gantner's interesting Musical Lectures. The Ethiopian Serenaders continue to attract at the St. James's Theatre.

MADLE. COLETTI'S CONCERT.—This lady's name is Collins, and she is a promising pianiste, who does not require a foreign name to advance her interests. She gave a good concert at the Hanover-square Rooms, with Sivori and Godefroid as the instrumental lions, and Madame Albertazzi, Miss Birch, Madame Knespel (a clever German vocalist), Mr. Boddia, Mr. John Parry, and Herr Pischek, as the vocal stars. M. Jules de Glimes was the pianoforte accompanist. There was no orchestra, and the announced pieces were changed most unceremoniously.

MUSICAL CHIT-CHAT.

M. Onslow, the great French composer, who is the son of an Englishman, left town yesterday for his seat in Clermont (Puy-de-Dôme). He was much *flattered*, during his stay here, by the leading amateurs and artists. He speaks in the highest terms of the state of music in this country, and was delighted beyond measure at the performances of the Philharmonic Society, Beethoven Quartet Society, Musical Union, &c. He declared to many friends that England was now the first of musical nations, as every school was represented, and each speciality was unrivalled of its kind. This is a great compliment from such a high authority. His admiration of Costa, as a Conductor, was unbounded. "I would rather," said he to the writer of this article, "that he should conduct my compositions than myself. His power over a band has no parallel within my recollection." M. Onslow was much struck by the fact that our lady-amateurs of rank and distinction followed the classical performances with scores.

The reception of Persiani, Salvi, and Ronconi, in Madrid, has been most triumphant.

A WEEK'S MUSIC.—This morning, rehearsal of Fifth Philharmonic programme, for Monday's Concert. On Monday morning, rehearsal of Ancient Concert; and Madame Playel's First Pianoforte Recital. On Tuesday morning, Fourth Meeting of "Musical Union;" and in the evening, Concert of Mr. Kiallmark and Mr. Grattan Cooke. On Wednesday, Madame Puzzi's Morning Concert; and in the evening, Seventh Ancient Concert. On Thursday, *Soirée Musicale* of Regondi and Mr. G. Case. On Friday morning, Mrs. Anderson's Concert; and in the evening, Mr. H. B. Richards's Concert. On Saturday morning, the Thiru Royal Academy Concert. Opera every night at Drury Lane Theatre; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at Her Majesty's Theatre.

GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Smith O'Brien still defies the Saxon, and submits to the durance vile of the cellar and his regimen of tea and toast. He sternly refuses to pay the fees, which amount (how we are not informed) to £20 a-day. He rejects wine and spirits. We hope that his friends are searched when they visit him, and that no drop of the "crater" finds its way into the cellar, to enliven the prisoned hours of the martyr. By the way, why should not an Irish martyrology be written, after the fashion of "Fox's Acts and Monuments," with illustrations representing the dreadful sufferings of O'Connell and his companions in the Richmond Penitentiary, and O'Brien over his tea and toast in the cellar? The severest tortures they underwent were probably those of indigestion, consequent upon liberal feeding and limited exercise. "O'Connell at the steak" would be a noble subject for Repeal pencils: the member for Limerick solaces his captivity with verse. The following effusion, suggested by the well-known lines of *Lovelace to Althea*, is a favourable specimen of the martyr's muse:—

When John from Bellamy's the things
Bears to the cellar gate,
And my small steak and murphies brings
Upon a well-warmed plate;
When martyrdom to humble fare
Gives zest no sauce can buy,
I would not call the Great Lord Mayor
My uncle—no not I!

Tho', starling-like, confined, I
"I can't get out," may sing,
Lord George himself cannot deny
Of Ireland's heart I'm King!
While Dillon Browne, fain, if he could,
Would be shut up like me,
Ould Dan himself was not so good
A martyr—no, not he!

When Irish members flock around,
And Saxons leave their names,
Despite the fees of many a pound,
And Gossett's monstrous claims;
While Saxon tyrants, undismayed,
I slaug o'er my Bohea,
No scandal-mongering old maid
Doth more enjoy her tea.

Vile Gossett sha'n't a penny make
Of me, that I'll engage,
No wine nor "spirits" will I take
While I am in the cage.
While letters I can write, to prove
To my constituency,
That I'm a hero, I'd not move,
Not for a barony!

Not content with monodies of this pensive, but yet determined, character, the honourable member for Limerick keeps up an animated correspondence. Here is an epistle to the great original martyr, Daniel O'Connell, which borrows the cadence and flow from Pope's well known epistle of Eloisa to Abelard.

O'BRIEN TO O'CONNELL.

In this which some may call "an awful cell,"
Where Gossett's deputy and I do dwell,
Where a teetotal regimen obtains;
What means this tumult in O'Brien's veins?
Why rove my thoughts beyond this calm retreat,
Why isn't martyrdom more short and sweet?
To see you to the Richmond oft I came.
Why, now I'm locked up do not you the same?
Relentless walls, whose granite round contains
An Irish martyr doomed to Saxon chains,
Thou ragged waiter, by whose hand each morn
My tea and toast from Bellamy's are borne:
Ye fees, which still accumulating keep,
But which to pay O'Brien is too deep!
Think not (though martyrdom's a bore, I own)
O'Brien's pluck to cowardice hath grown.
All is not Gossett's while Repeal has part,
And I, from Limerick, reign in Ireland's heart.
I am a hero still, and see with pain,
O, Dan, thy envy thou canst scarce restrain.
Soon as the papers eager I uncloze,
I light on Saxon jests at martyrs' woes.
In leading articles my name appears
Still plied with puns, still ushered in with jeers.
I tremble, too, whene'er thy name I find,
For mine is certain to come close behind.
How, in the Richmond, you tucked in, they know,
And fancy that all martyrs do it so.
How little do they guess my different doom!
Pent, where to swing a cat there scarce is room;
Where, howe'er hard I live (infernal shame!)
That Gossett swears he'll charge me just the same.
Write Steele a letter, that my name may shine
In Conciliation Hall, along with thine.
Swear that I'll never yield a step till they
Command me to submit, then p'raps they may.

IMITATIVE PUBLICATIONS.

The withering ridicule bestowed by Horace upon literary imitators in his one emphatic appellation, "servile herd," has been repeated times without number, and the veriest tyro is now aware that theirs is, of all the sins of composition, the greatest. But since Horace's time, an entirely new kind of literary imitation has come upon the field, one in which publishers are primarily, and in general authors only secondarily, concerned. It consists in the presentment of works in direct imitation of others which, whether from their originality and merit, or from their aptly subserving some public need, have met with success. The writings of Swift and Pope tell us of a branch of "the trade" devoted to this business early in the last century, with Edward Carl for its most eminent professor. But it has, in our times, reached a magnitude, compared with which its early history is as mewing infancy to a Hercules's manhood. It is now absolutely impossible for the slightest originality to be shown in any of the forms of paper and print, but it is immediately run upon by scores of the bibliopolic pecus, and tossed and gored into a thousand deformations.

Thus is the public imposed upon in literature. To every favourite work which it may desire, it has to make its way through an entangling brushwood of similitative works, all pretending to be the true work in the first place; and in the second, if the first trick fail, to be better. Every now and then its attention is attracted by a prospectus which will not be overlooked; for, go where the public will, there is the portentous announcement. Well, the public reads the advertisement, and (we shall suppose the thing referred to is a newspaper), not being behind the scenes in such matters, it yields a kind of credence to the tale which it is told—as to interests of its own to be advanced, and so forth. It purchases; it reads; half recollecting all the time that there were very tolerable publications of that kind before, even to the minutest speciality of character; rather hazy, however, about the fact; always looking for the outcome of the great promise—when is the fun to begin? Why, after all, the old work was just as good, or rather better. What is the meaning of all this? Only, dear public, that a certain worthy person, who could not start an idea of his own, got up behind another man's idea, and tried all he could to oust him from the possession of his own vehicle. There is nothing else in the whole matter. But only thou, silly public that thou art, couldst never see it. It is melancholy, too, this desperate struggle to get bread reef from each other's mouths. It is not all slavish meanness of soul. Often there is ingenuity of no inconsiderable amount expended in getting up a passable imitative work. Often wonderful sacrifices of capital and labour are made to thrust the secondary work into the saddle of its primary. It was lately stated that an imitative weekly newspaper had caused an outlay of twenty thousand pounds, the return of which was one of the remotest of contingencies. What heroisms these are in their way!—perverted, misapplied, yet still heroisms—elements in what might, associated with purer elements than acquisitiveness for self and partners, constitute great characters. One could almost weep over human nature thrown into positions so wretchedly false, and the redemption from which seems, for the present, at least, so hopeless.—From Chambers's Edinburgh Journal.

PRINTERS' PENSION SOCIETY.—The anniversary dinner of this important and valuable Society, which was established in 1827, for the purpose of granting pensions and affording relief to aged and infirm printers and their widows, is announced to take place at the London Tavern, on Monday next, the 18th instant. The Right Honourable Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart will preside on the occasion, supported by Mr. Sheriff Laurie and Mr. Sheriff Chaplin, Mr. Sergeant Talfourd, Albert Smith, Esq., Charles Dickens, Esq., Gilbert a Beckett, Esq., Douglas Jerrold, Esq., Luke J. Hansard, Esq., and a host of highly influential gentlemen. From the last report it appears that since the formation of the Society 130 pensioners have been elected, 53 of whom are, at the present time, receiving its benefits, and the amount of property of the Society is £4170 19s. invested with the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, in addition to a large balance of cash in the hands of the treasurer.

RATHER NEW.—A few days ago a lady visited one of the most extensive shopping establishments in Glasgow, and made purchases to the extent of £80. On examining the contents of her purse, she found she had only £50, and suggested that one of the shop-boys should just step into the carriage along with her, and receive payment at her mansion. Instead, however, of arriving at a fine mansion, judge of his surprise when the officials of a lunatic asylum seized him and held him fast. The lady had, of course, specially prepared a warrant for his committal. Before he could procure liberation, the fair one and goods had disappeared, and have not since been heard of.



AGRICULTURAL PICTURES.—LOPPING TIMBER.

LOPPING TIMBER TREES IN SPRING.

Come to the woods and the forest hoar—
Come where the Timber Trees are waving
Their proud arms the streamlet o'er
Which their gnarled roots is laving.
Come where the Spring in verdant sheen
Brings sap from earth and dews from heaven,
Where towers the monarch oak serene,
That 'gainst a century hath striven.

Here be the leafy sons of earth,
And need, like man, a true preceptor;
Man hews the branch to enlarge the girth,
But Nature waves o'er all her sceptre.
Hark! 'tis the woodman's stalwart stroke,
And flee the fallow deer affrighted;
The Dryads mourn their native oak,
Whose boughs have to the sword alighted.

Oh! 'tis a soul-absorbing theme
Upon an acorn's fate to ponder;
The more we think the deeper seem
Our thoughts entranced in voiceless wonder.

To think that little tiny thing
Should prove the bulwark of our nation,
Bearing abroad, on Triumph's wing,
Our name, our fame, and destination.

"Who plants a tree"—the sage hath said,
Becomes a greater benefactor
To man—than he who armies led,
In Moloch's farce a laurell'd actor.
And hence 'twas through no idle rite,
The oak was hallowed by the Druid;
Tis truly British, and our might
Was nurtured by its vital fluid.

Come to the woods and forests green,
Come where the woodman's axe is sounding,
While through the flow'ry glades are seen,
The dappled deer in freedom bounding.

The branches fall—but coming years
Will soon replace each sylvan brother,
And thus our tree of life appears,
Whose branches—men—succeed each other.

MAY-DAY MUSICAL SERVICE, ON THE TOWER OF MAGDALEN COLLEGE, OXFORD.

Every visitor to Oxford must have been struck with the fine entrance into the City by Magdalen Bridge, at the meeting of the Henley and Wycombe roads from the Metropolis. "From noise, and glare, and brilliancy," says a writer in the *Quarterly Review*, of eight years since, "the traveller comes upon a very different scene—a mass of towers, pinnacles, and spires, rising in the bosom of a valley, from groves which hide all buildings but such as are consecrated to some wise and holy purpose." True it is that since the above was written, a railway has been extended to Oxford, and you lose the picturesque approach we have glanced at. Still, the majestic "Perpendicular" Tower of Magdalen College is seen from every point, delighting the eye with its stately form, fine proportions, and admirable simplicity, and by its superior architectural character, doing honour to the original intention of its founder—that it should stand alone, detached from the other buildings on the east and west of it. Wolsey, afterwards the celebrated Cardinal, who was bursar of the College in 1498, has had the credit assigned to him of designing this Tower; but, Dr. Chandler, in his *Life of Bishop Waynflete*, assures us that Wolsey had no share whatever in the erection of the structure.

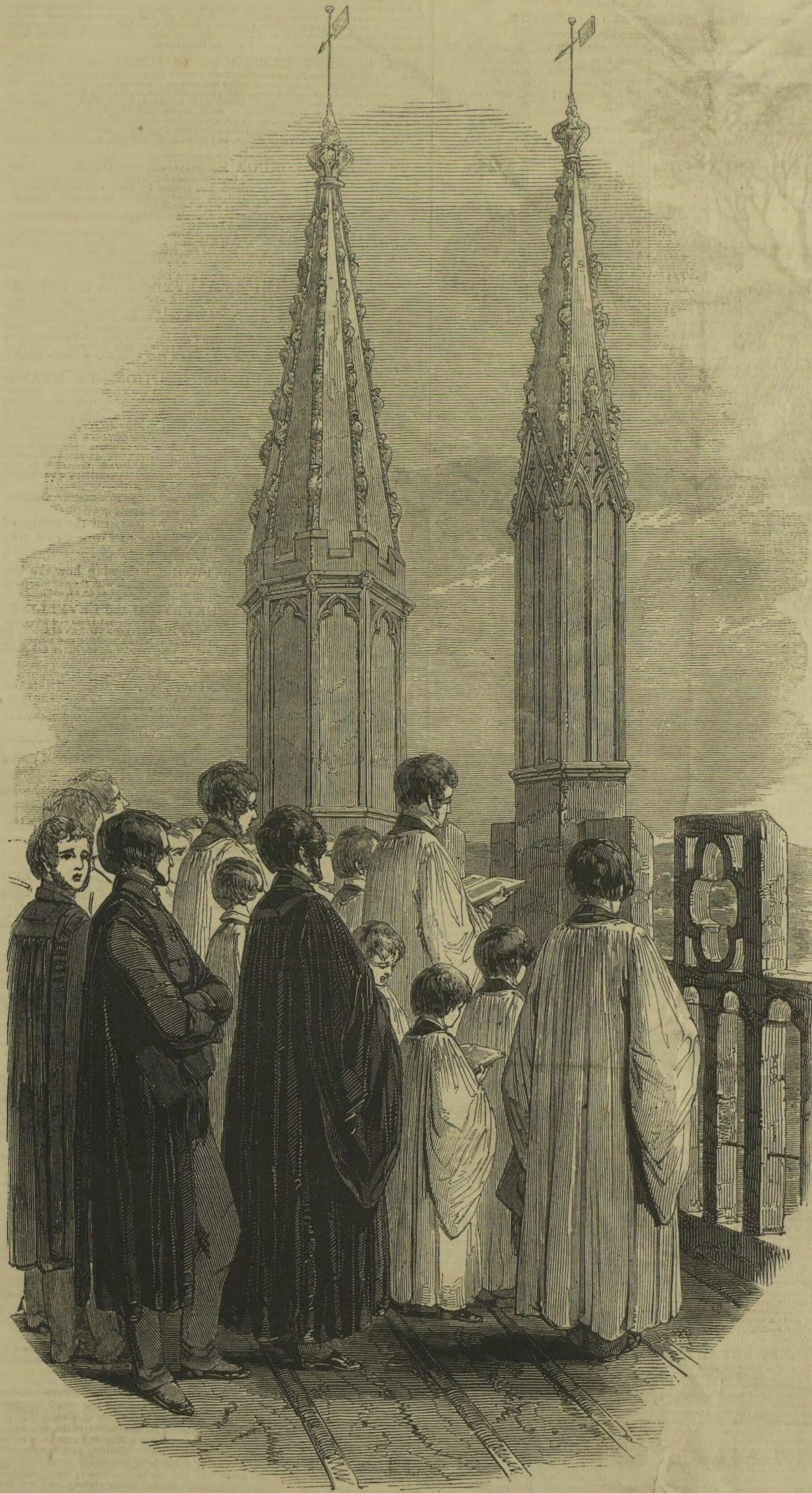
With the history of this Tower there is associated a May-day custom of surpassing interest, which we have been at some pains to illustrate and describe to our readers. For three centuries and a half it has been customary for the Choristers of Magdalen College to assemble on the top of its Tower, and there, with harmonious service, "to usher in Spring," as one writer states; but, on better informed authority, Mr. Chalmers, in his *History of the University*, refers the origin of the custom to a mass, or requiem, which, before the Reformation, used to be annually performed on the top of the Tower, for the repose of the soul of Henry VII., who had honoured the College with a visit in 1488. "This was afterwards commuted," Mr. Chalmers adds, "for a few pieces of music, which are executed by the Choristers, and for which the Rectory of Slimbridge, in Gloucestershire, pays annually the sum of £10."

Thither we dispatched one of our artists on Thursday, the 30th ult., and we subjoin the results of his visit, graphic as well as narrative, the latter with only a few variations:—

"Friday morning was very unpropitious, and, by no means, a poetical May morning; for, though the air was mild and clear, it was cloudy, and, soon after four o'clock, a slight shower of rain tended to cast a gloom over the scene. On emerging into the High-street, from the archway of the Mitre Hotel, it was evident that boys and girls were on the *qui vive*, even if the older inhabitants of Oxford were not, as many of the former were on their way down the street towards the bridge. On reaching the very pretty and recently erected gate to Magdalen College, the Choristers were assembling; and, on presenting the ticket with which I was provided, I was admitted, and proceeded to the entrance of the splendid Tower. About half-past four o'clock, the porter unlocked the gate of the Tower, and up went the singing boys, in high glee, with their task, and carrying their surplices under their arms, to attire themselves in on reaching the summit of the Tower, as did also the singing men. A great many of the members of Magdalen and the different Colleges, fellows, scholars, &c., in their academic dresses, wended their way to the top, and a tedious ascent they must have found it, their long dresses incommodeing them in the narrow, newel staircase. The summit gained, the prospect was very pleasing through the pierced battlements, and between the pinnacles of grey time-stained stone; for, being so early in the morning, no smoke impeded the view of every house, tower, or church in Oxford, and the fields and trees looked bright and fresh in their new spring livery and foliage. The Choristers, men and boys, put on their surplices, and ranged themselves in order on the slightly gabled roof of the Tower, standing with their faces towards the east, the visitors looking in the same direction. The music-books were given to the Choristers, and then came the silence of expectation, slightly interrupted by the whispers of some of the more eager of the listeners, who were consulting their watches. Soon the College clocks sounded five; Magdalen bell told the same tale, and, in an instant, all were uncovered.



MAGDALEN COLLEGE, OXFORD.—(FROM THE BRIDGE).



CHORISTERS SINGING THE "HYMNUS EUCHARISTICUS," ON MAGDALEN TOWER.

"As the fifth sound died away in the air, the Choristers began their hymn, and a very beautiful effect it had. The novelty of the situation, the early hour, the surplised singers, and the black academic robes of the lookers on, with the notes of the hymn vibrating in the air, all tended to produce a most imposing and thrilling effect. On a bright sunshiny morning, it must be exquisite; but it was marred on Friday by the rain which was falling in a slight shower all the time. Whilst the hymn was going on, a solitary rook flew up, and hovered round the pinnacle, as though he could not conceive why all those strange faces and strange sounds were so near his leafy eyry.

"The hymn ended, all heads were covered; and the singing-boys made haste to the belfry, and amused themselves with ringing the bells, or at least assisting in the task.

"A great number of the townspeople, and boys and girls, were congregated on the bridge, listening with all possible quiet to the music, as it floated in the air; and, as soon as it was all over, they dispersed in various directions; the boys making a most disagreeable din with tin horns, the blowing of which seems to be an ancient custom of welcoming in sweet May. Boys and girls also rambled away into the fields to gather cowslips and field-flowers, with which I saw many parties returning tolerably laden, in the course of the morning.

"I was told that the best place to hear the singing on Magdalen Tower is to go into the fields away from the people, and that there the effect is particularly fine. The keeper of the Ashmolean Museum assured me he had been informed the singing had been heard in the fields two miles off, when the wind was in that direction.

"The 1st of May is a 'gandy-day' for the Choristers, who have a dinner of lamb and plum-pudding, at two o'clock in the day. The attendance of Choristers at the Tower was very good, and, including some of the fellows of Magdalen, who joined in the singing, could not be less than 25 or 30 persons, so that the choir was tolerably full.

"I may as well observe that neither the author nor composer of the hymn are known, though the music is undoubtedly of great antiquity. I rather think, also, it is a puzzling question to antiquaries as to the connection Henry VII. had with the College, so that there should be a requiem performed to his memory.

"I enclose a copy of the hymn in Latin, in which language it is sung, and a translation of it also."

Te Deum Patrem colimus,
Te laudibus prosequimur,
Qui corpus cibo redidit,
Celesti mentem gratia.

Te adoramus, O Jesu,
Te Fili unigenite,
Te qui non designatus es
Subire claustra Virginis.

Actus in crucem, factus es
Ira Deo victima,
Per te, Salvator unice,
Vite spes nobis rediit.

Tibi, eterne Spiritus,
Cujus afflatu peperit
Infantum Deum Mariæ,
Æternum benedicimus.

Triune Deus, hominum
Salutis auctor optime,
Immensum hoc mysterium
Ovante lingua canimus.

We have appended a view of the very handsome Entrance-Gate to Magdalen College, just completed from the designs of Mr. Pugin. It consists of a central gateway, and a small doorway to the Porter's Lodge. The style of architecture is that of the period of Henry VI.; and the details are copied from examples to be found in the original portions of the College buildings. The doorway is highly enriched, having shields in the quatrefoils of the spandrels, on which are emblazoned the lilies of the College Arms, and the Badge of Henry VI., painted upon copper. In a string-course of lilies is sculptured in Old English characters, William of Waynflete's motto, "Fecit mihi magna qui potens est." Over the gate, within a beautifully decorated niche, is an elegant figure of St. Mary Magdalen; and in niches in the buttresses on each side of the Gateway are figures of St. John the Baptist, and William of Waynflete; the former holding a lamb in his arms, and the latter in his pontifical, holding the model of a church in his right hand, and his crozier in his left.

HYMNUS EUCHARISTICUS.

(TRANSLATION.)

Father and God, we worship Thee,
And praise and bless, on bended knee:
With food Thou'rt to our bodies kind,
With heavenly grace dost cheer the mind.

O Jesus, only Son of God!
Thee we adore, and praise, and laud:
Thy love did not disdain the gloom
Of a pure Virgin's holy womb.

Nail'd to the cross, a victim made,
On Thee the wrath of God was laid:
Our only Saviour, now by Thee
Immortal life we hope to see.

To Thee, Eternal Spirit, rise
Unceasing praise, from earth and skies:
Thy breath awoke the heavenly Child,
And gave Him to His mother mild.

To Thee, the Triune God, be paid—
To Thee, who our redemption made—
All honour, thanks, and praise divine,
For this great mystery of Thine!

In sunken panels on each side of the central niche are shields supported by angels; that on the south bearing England and France quarterly; that on the north, the arms of the College. These shields are, like those in the quatrefoils, emblazoned upon copper. The Gateway is surmounted by an elegant stone cross, and on the eastern side of the Gate, over the arch, and within a niche, is a figure of the Virgin holding the infant Saviour in her arms.

There is one sad defect in the figures, and that is—they are all of them too large for their respective niches; so that the Baptist seems as if he were cut down to fit his little habitation, and William of Waynflete appears as though he were afraid of knocking his mitre from his head.



NEW GATEWAY OF MAGDALEN COLLEGE.

The doors of the Gateway are of oak, and ornamented. It should be added that all the sculptures are exceedingly well executed, and not in the formal style so often seen in attempts to carry out the old character in additions to old buildings.

HERR FISCHKE, THE GREAT GERMAN SINGER.

The portrait that we are enabled to publish this day in our columns, of this celebrated artist, is copied from a lithograph given to the world by Mr. Schloss, who is in possession of the Daguerrotype from which the drawing was taken on stone. The career of the most eminent baritone, who is pronounced by the oldest professors never to have been rivalled, is interesting.

John Baptiste Fischke was born the 14th of October, 1814, at Mscheno, a small town in Bohemia, about six miles (German) from Prague. His father, a gentleman farmer in Mscheno, and afterwards Mayor of the place, was a great amateur of music, especially of the sacred school. He was much amused one day at finding his little son (then only four years old) trying to make out, on the piano, the air of a national Bohemian song, and was with one finger, quite by himself, composing a bass to it. The father and his musical friends at once saw the talent of the young Fischke, and in his sixth year he was properly instructed on the piano by a master residing in the town, and he soon made extraordinary progress.

When ten years old he began to sing, and assisted at the Catholic Church services. His powerful and fine alto voice made him, of course, soon the favourite of his native town. At eleven years he learned German, as at Mscheno, which is an entirely Bohemian place and nothing else is spoken, or generally taught, than the native language. Having reached his twelfth year, and his father wishing him to study, he brought him to the College at Leipa; and he afterwards went to Prague, where he acquired at the Gymnasium, Philosophy and Jurisprudence. Young Fischke, however, did not neglect music, and continued, as an amateur, to sing in Churches, and to keep up on other occasions his brilliant talent; for four years he played the organ and sang in Churches parts written for the alto voice. From his seventeenth to his eighteenth year his voice changed, and he was so careful at this event, not having had any idea of studying the art of singing, nor the slightest wish to dedicate himself to the stage, that for two years he scarcely sang at all, but during this period remained quiescent.

At the age of twenty years he completely regained his voice, which was at first a full, strong, and deep bass; but, in two years more, he acquired the higher notes, and was possessed of a beautiful baritone voice. The director of the theatre, Triebensee (the master of Sontag), was informed of Fischke's talent, and he immediately invited him, and tried to persuade him to give up the study of the law, and to exchange it for that of the stage.

Fischke soon consented to this suggestion, and made his first appearance with Sabina Heinefetter on the stage of Prague, in *Oreoso*, the priest, in "Norma." The house, which was crowded to excess, received the young *artiste* with the greatest enthusiasm. But Fischke was so much overpowered (at this first performance) that he was scarcely able to sing, and his friends advised him to leave the stage, not thinking he had voice or talent sufficient for it. His parents frequently reproached him, and entreated him to commence his career again. Thus passed two years and a half, during which time sad misfortunes fell upon his family, in the loss of a tender mother, &c.



HERR FISCHKE.

These circumstances made him undecided whether it would be better to follow his former studies, or to remain on the stage; but, in 1833, he had an opportunity of singing for the first time at Brunn, in "I Puritani," and was so successful as to be encored five times, and was called before the curtain amid the enthusiastic cheers of the audience. Since that time, Fischke has performed in many operas with the greatest success. In 1839, he went to Vienna; and the following year proceeded to Frankfurt on the Maine, where he remained four years, and was always a favourite with the public; he afterwards accepted (in 1844) an engagement at Stuttgart, the capital of Wurtemberg, for life, with the permission of four months' leave of absence in each year. The first year he went to Prague, where he had very great success. In 1845, he came the first time to England, where he remained the season; and afterwards spent that year at Munich and Vienna, in which last place he passed three months, and the reception he met with everywhere was most enthusiastic. He arrived in London the first week in May, and his engagements for concerts, public and private, are more extensive than was ever before known, of any artist, although he is unacquainted with English.



NAPLES AND VESUVIUS, AT THE SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

weather leads the general audience to seek other recreations. The Surrey Zoological Gardens—a serious rival to the theatres on the other side of the river—have opened; and Vauxhall is advertised to commence its season on the 1st of June.

At DRURY-LANE the Viennese dancers have been re-engaged, but their performance has not attracted as we expected it would do. Nothing can exceed the enthusiasm of applause on the part of the audience, but still the little *artistes* do not "draw." Miss Romer has been indisposed, as also have been Madame Thillon, Miss Poole, and Miss Rainforth, their voices most probably suffering from relaxation induced by the present weather. The ballet of "Paquita," in which Carlotta Grisi will appear, is already in rehearsal. Madame Sali does not progress in public favour. She is an admirable dancer, but her face lacks pleasing expression; at times her expression is actually cross, even in scenes intended to be joyous and festive.

The HAYMARKET has been falling back upon stock comedies and farces, with Mr. Planché's "Birds" each evening as a finish. A new comic drama is announced for production this evening; but we believe that Mr. Jerrold's comedy will be the first important piece brought out. It is reported in the *coulisses* that Madame Anna Thillon is engaged at this theatre for vaudevilles, on the termination of her appearances at Drury-lane, at a salary of £40 per night.

At the ADELPHI, on Monday evening, a new farce was produced, called, "Who did it?" The action was entirely supported by Mr. Wright and Miss Woolgar; but it was not so successful as it really deserved to be—a result we may attribute chiefly to the gentleman's love of his own speeches instead of those of the author. In dramas of this kind, technically called "touch and go" pieces, the success is, unless the actors are perfect to the letter, always jeopardized. The applause at the conclusion, we must add, was perfectly unqualified, and the piece has been performed every evening since. The drama, adopted from Mr. Rodwell's "Memoirs of an Umbrella," is announced for production on Monday.

The new five-act play, "The King of the Commons," will be produced at the PRINCESS' Theatre early next week. It is said that Mr. Macready has a very fine part in it. On Thursday evening, a new and original comédietta was produced, called "The Colonel's Belle," and with entire success. The plot is somewhat slight; turning on the adventures of three officers, personated by Messrs. James Vining, Leigh Murray, and Robert Roxby, who, setting their faces against matrimony, are at last lured into the fatal (or blessed) noose. The principal female character was nicely played by Miss Emma Stanley, who was warmly encored in a very catching song, composed by Mr. Edward Loder. The first act wants a little compression; and if this is effected, the piece will have a very fair run. After this was brought out a new ballet called "Les Conscrits du Village"—one of those pleasant affairs, partaking more of the *divertissement*, which always form an agreeable finish to the entertainments at this theatre. The story may be guessed from the title; and so we may make sure of a lover torn away from his mistress, and an extra gallant recruiting officer who waits a little behind. The principal characters were capably played, or rather danced, by Mr. Gilbert

and Miss Ballin; the lady was loudly applauded in a difficult *valse à cinq temps*. Mr. and Miss Marshall were also encored in a striking "Pas Villageois;" and Mr. Flexmore's extraordinary performance, as *Nicolo* (a Sumpkin), is beyond all praise. He is, without exception, the first comic pantomimist now upon the stage. A word for the music, by Mr. Corri, which is excellently and appropriately arranged.

At the LYCEUM, "Robin Hood" is drawing very fair half prices, and increases in public favour; but some popular first piece is sadly wanted, as the appearance of the house, at first price, testifies. The "Cricket on the Hearth" was played on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights, as the bills stated, "by Desire!"

Mademoiselle Rose Cheri is rapidly gaining ground in the favour of the audiences at the French plays, and the attendance, on the nights of her performing, has been fashionable and numerous. It is to be regretted that the close occupation of our own performers will not allow them to study the consummate knowledge of stage business, and the manner of producing an effect, as well as the uniformity of excellence, which distinguishes the *troupe* at this theatre. We do not say this, with any wish to depreciate our native actors; but there are very

NEW PICTURE AT THE SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

On Monday, this very popular resort was opened for the season, and was thronged throughout the day and evening with visitors.

The novel attraction is a gigantic picture of Naples, with a distant view of Vesuvius, painted by Mr. Danson, who is unrivalled in this branch of art. It is on a much larger scale than the picture of the same subject painted for the Gardens several years since by Mr. Danson: now, as then, advantage has been taken of the lake, which forms a "real water" Bay of Naples; and the scenic display on the banks is marvellously illusive. The artificial mountain, with the surrounding scenery, the City of Naples, and various points to be seen from the Gulf, are faithfully painted as to locality; while, in execution, the picture blends so well with the surrounding realities of sky, water, trees, and shrubs, that, at the distance of three hundred yards, it is difficult to point out where art ends and nature begins. It is the largest picture ever painted; and, unquestionably, an advance on all Mr. Danson's previous productions.

Since the close of last season, many alterations have been made in the laying out of the grounds, and these are in good taste. Some of the *façade* buildings have been replaced by new and appropriate erections. A bridge of Gothic design has been thrown across a branch of the lake, giving access to a part of the grounds hitherto scarcely known to the public: upon the parapet of the bridge are placed some statues of the English Kings. Near the lake, too, has been constructed a Pagoda: and there is a fountain of somewhat unusual pretensions. The menagerie has, likewise, been increased very considerably.

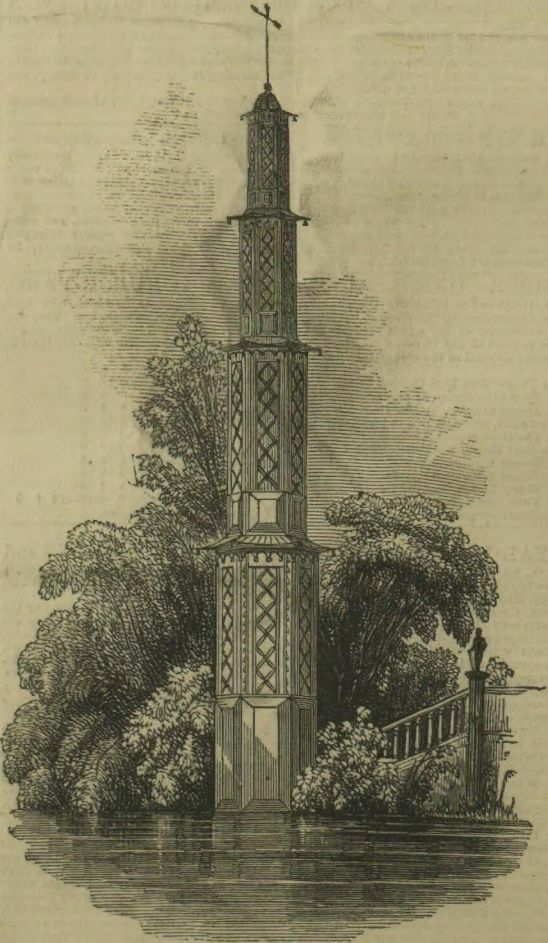
On Monday, the band, under the direction of Mr. Godfrey, played some well-chosen selections from the compositions of Beethoven, Jullien, Benedict, Barrett, Mendelssohn, Wallace, Rossini, and Auber, and contributed to the pleasure of the promenade, keeping the company in good humour till dusk, when all hastened to get the best places to see as advantageously as possible the great feature of the evening—the Eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

The mimic eruption commenced with clouds of smoke and sheets of lurid flame issuing from the crater of the mount; the rumbling of subterranean thunder was heard, and then succeeded jets of fire and all the horrors of an eruption, which took a considerable time, showing the various and destructive effects of showers of burning matter and streams of lava: these were made to overwhelm the towns of Herculaneum and Pompeii (as in the year 79) even unto the margin of the water. This pyrotechnic display was by Mr. Southby, whose skill in such matters is well known.

At night, too, the Gothic Bridge was also illuminated with good effect; and a M. Farinelli representing Phœbus in his chariot, descended in a display of fireworks from the new Pagoda, to the great delight of the spectators, who numbered between 3000 and 4000. Indeed, the whole of the amusements are on a scale which is highly creditable to the taste and enterprise of Mr. Tyler, the proprietor of the Gardens; and fine weather will, doubtless, insure him a liberal return for his large outlay in providing so many novelties.



NEW FOUNTAIN.



CHINESE PAGODA.

few who might not take some useful hints in bye-play and deportment, from the members of Mr. Mitchell's company. The *ars celare artem* is carried to the highest degree of excellence amongst them.

The *corps de ballet* has certainly been doing great things for the OLYMPIC—much more than the lessee's notions of "legitimacy." The short season is, however, approaching its termination; but we believe that there are two or three speculators ready to enter into a fresh campaign. It is to be hoped that whoever takes the theatre will endeavour to raise the character of the performances, and collect together, if possible, a respectable and efficient company. From the present performers at this theatre many useful ones could be selected.



GOTHIC BRIDGE.